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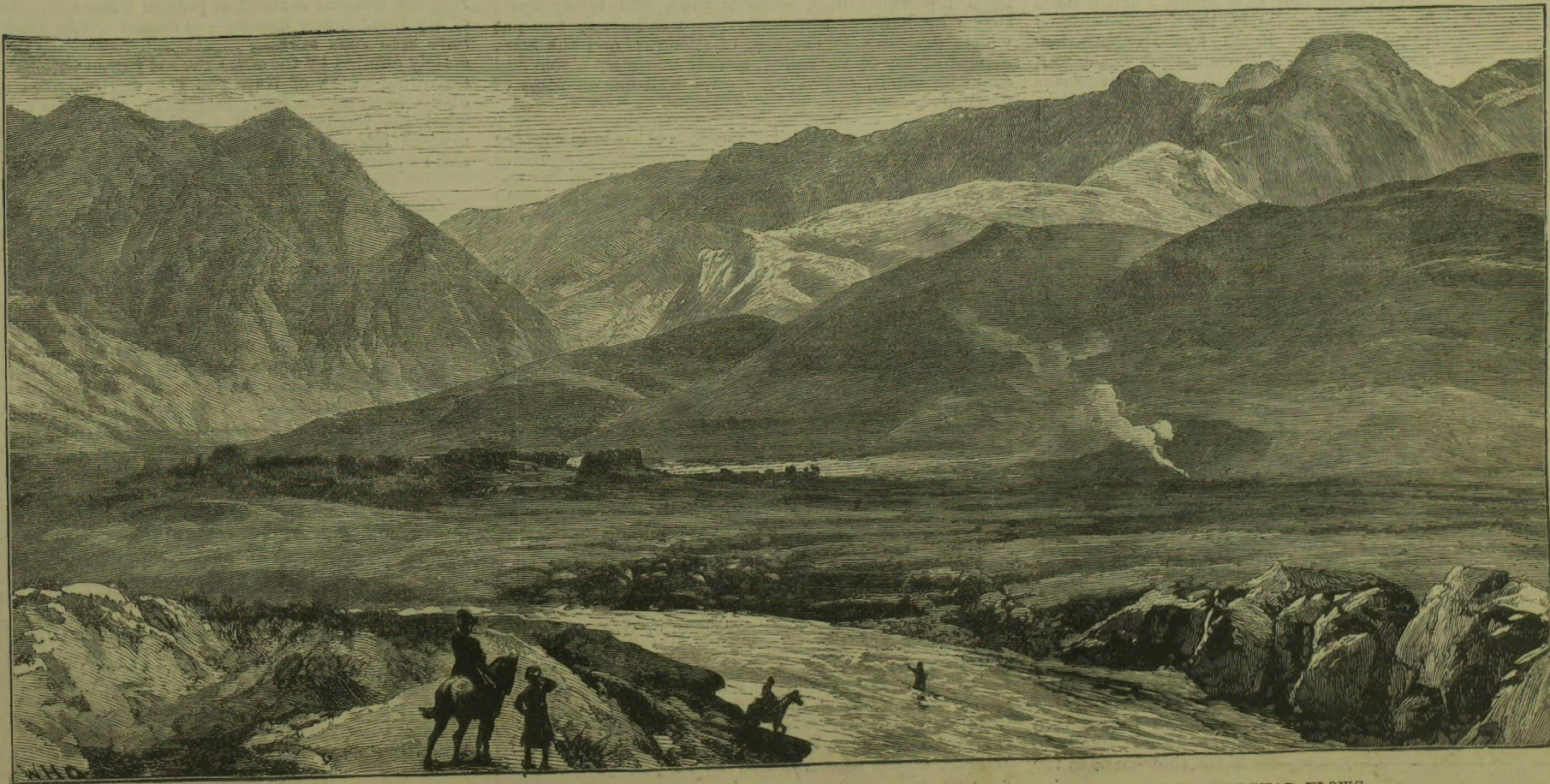
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THE RULER OF AFGHANISTAN, ABDURRAHMAN KHAN, AMEER OF CABUL.



WITH THE AFGHAN BOUNDARY COMMISSION: GORGE IN THE TIRKAND-I-TURKESTAN, THROUGH WHICH THE MURGHAB FLOWS.  
FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. W. SIMPSON.



## OUR NOTEBOOK

The various annual contests between the "dark blue" of Oxford and the "light blue" of Cambridge include all sorts of games, from chess and billiards (always poor exhibitions) at the beginning of the season to football at the end. The most noteworthy, however, are three—the "athletic" contest at Lillie-bridge, the boat-race at Putney-Mortlake, and the cricket-match (in the summer) at Lord's. Of these three, two have already been decided. At Lillie-bridge, on the 27th ult., the "Dark Blue" won 5½ events (dead-heat of three for the high jump—two "Dark Blues" and one "Light Blue," the mile, putting the weight, the quarter of a mile, the 120 yards hurdle-race, and the long jump), against 3½ (throwing the hammer, the hundred yards race, dead-heat for high jump, and the three miles race). The "Dark Blue," on the whole number, from 1864, have now won 100 to 97. This year it was considered remarkable that both Mr. McNeill, president of the "Dark Blue" club, and Mr. Eliot, president of the "Light Blue" club, should, after several unsuccessful attempts on other occasions, have won each his "particular weakness," the hurdle-race and the three miles, respectively, in their year of office. At Putney-Mortlake, on the 28th ult., the boat-race was won by "Dark Blue," making, according to the usual calculation, twenty-three victories for Oxford against eighteen for Cambridge, with one dead-heat. Once more the race "followed the betting," which was at one time as much as 3½ to 1 on Oxford, though the odds dropped to 5 to 4. Officially, Oxford won by "a length and a quarter" clear, but might probably have won by enough to justify the higher odds. There is no object, however, in winning by as much as possible; and the best of a boat-race is that the leading crew can give its "wash" to the other, and the stroke of the former can generally take it easy at the end, watching the efforts of the latter, and using no more labour than is absolutely necessary to keep a respectable distance ahead. Besides, No. 6 in the Oxford boat "slipped" his shoulder.

Last week the lovers and followers of horse-racing on the flat had their first opportunity this year of indulging in that pastime, combined with not a little steeplechasing, at Lincoln and Liverpool. Lincoln began it on Monday, and Liverpool ended the week's racing on Saturday. "First blood," to use the language of the pugilists, might be claimed for Mr. R. C. Naylor, who won the first flat-race of the season—the Trial Stakes at Lincoln—with Forethought, three years old, ridden by F. Barrett. The first great handicap of the season, the Lincolnshire Handicap, was won by the favourite, the Irish horse Bendigo; and the Grand National Steeplechase, at Liverpool, was also won by the favourite, Roquefort, ridden by Mr. E. P. Wilson, who also rode the winner, Voluptuary, last year. Curiously enough, on the 26th ult., at Liverpool, the favourite won in every race; and, curiously enough, again, the "crack" jockey, Mr. F. Archer, did not win a single race until his seventh attempt, which was on Round Shot, winner of the Prince's Park Plate at Liverpool. The first notable race for two-year-olds this season, the Brocklesby Stakes at Lincoln, was won by a colt, The Bard, son of Petrarch. This is noteworthy, because the Brocklesby has been won by fillies (receiving an allowance in weight) seventeen times out of twenty-two. The Bard, moreover, proceeded to win the Molyneux Stakes at Liverpool, carrying 7lb. extra. The sensation of the Grand National was the behaviour of Zoedone, the second favourite, and the winner two years ago: both in the preliminary canter and in the race she fell, but without doing serious injury, and most fortunately, to her gallant owner and rider, Count Kinsky.

About the same time, at any rate on the same day, as the race between Oxford and Cambridge, a much more important race—a sculling-race for the championship of the world between Messrs. Beach and Hanlan—took place at the Antipodes, on the Parramatta. Beach won by from six to eight lengths, it is said. The Australians believed in him fervently; and their belief has been justified. The Canadian, Hanlan, the best oarsman the world had ever seen, it was thought, up to his date, has now succumbed for the second time to Beach, whose former victory is thus proved to have not been the "fluke" some people considered it to have been. There is always a good fish in the sea as ever came out of it; and, as the Irishman would say, "a good deal better too."

The ways of the "rulers of the Queen's Nave" are often inscrutable, and no one seems to know the reason why the corvette Conquest, which was built five years ago, has been laid up ever since in Hamoaze. She is the ninth vessel of what is known as Class C, and the other eight have all been out to sea, but just now every ship we have is wanted, so she has been overhauled and her rigging found to be rotten—not from use, but the want of it.

The French Marines at Formosa are suffering terribly from illness and the lack of medical remedies and comforts. The 1500 men who took Kelung in the autumn are reduced to less than 600 by cholera and typhoid fever, and the survivors look more like walking corpses than human beings, having been enfeebled either by last summer's campaign in Tonquin, or by a sojourn in Cochin China. The doctors are said to be without the barest necessities for the sick and wounded, and it is they who have reported this sad state of things to a French medical journal.

Amongst the several hundred gifts received by Lady Esmyntrude Malet on the occasion of her marriage, was one exceptionally beautiful curiosity presented by the Khedive. It consisted of a necklet of green beetles in a setting of enamelled, hammered gold, and those who have seen it report it worthy of a place in the show-cases in the British Museum.

There are four 81-ton guns on board the Inflexible, and they cost £10,075 each. One of these, after firing eighty-six rounds, is damaged, and requires re-lining, which will cost something like £400. Luckily, there is a reserve gun of 80 tons at Shoeburyness; so that the Inflexible need not be useless while her own weapon is being repaired, and John Bull's pocket is still well furnished, in spite of all the talk about hard times. Besides, all this kind of thing means additional labour; and that is good news for the vast army of the unemployed.

Apropos of the unemployed, an experiment made recently on a sewage farm at Norwood points to the fact that a great many of the men who make an outcry about the scarcity of work are those who prefer idleness to industry. It has always been the custom to have this farm ploughed up in the spring, but as a very large number of men in the neighbourhood professed to be out of work, the manager arranged this year to use spade husbandry instead. About two dozen labourers were engaged, provided with spades, and set to work, but no sooner were they left to themselves than they retired to a shed, pulled up some palings and lit a fire, leaving one or two scouts on the look-out for stray philanthropists. Gentlemen who had urged the advisability of the plan naturally walked over to see how it answered, and on such occasions a shrill whistle summoned the men from the shed, and they made some pretence of digging for a little while. One of these visitors secreted himself in a hollow tree, and observed that one shivering, shoeless wretch who appeared desirous of earning a little money was shamefully pelted, buffeted, and abused, while the rest planned the theft of the manager's dog-kennel, stuck their spades in the ground and sat astride them, and accounted it a doughty deed to break one. It is almost needless to add that this scheme of providing employment has been given up in disgust.

Russian aristocrats are great connoisseurs in tea, and their favourite brand (if one may borrow a word sacred to less innocent beverages) is called Baikovoi-Tchai. The infusion when made is not darker than amber, and it has a delicious perfume, which is caused by a mixture of jasmine-blossoms, the flower being cultivated in China as freely as we grow potatoes, and always for the purpose of adding aroma to the most delicate teas. Baikovoi only grows in one district, which is about seven days' journey from the town of Fou-Tchéou; and some idea of the profits made in the tea-trade may be gathered from the fact that on the spot one *lan*, or 150 pounds, of it may be purchased for 8s. 4d., but by the time it reaches St. Petersburg the dealers ask and obtain £123 10s. for the same quantity.

The simple faith of Hassan Fehmi Pasha is something refreshing. He looks upon England as a great Moslem Power and the natural ally of the Sultan of Turkey. He urges the value of the Sick Man's friendship in view of possible complications in Afghanistan and elsewhere, and maintains that the British Lion should make common cause with him in all parts of the world. If the Mahdi be a true representative of El Islam this programme would surely include "peace with honour."

The British Navy will be considerably increased this year, for at least eight splendid new vessels will be completed. They will include the Colossus, Collingwood, Calliope, Edinburgh, Impérieuse, Scout, Surprise, and Alacrity. Several of them are being built on the Clyde and Tyne, but will be finished and fitted in Government dockyards. This is something like activity, and will give employment to many hundreds of men. One might almost say thousands of men, seeing that 700 were employed last week on the Camperdown.

The Spring Flower Show at the Crystal Palace on the 27th and 28th, though small, was choice, and a perfect feast to such lovers of flowers as have an all-round affection for them, rather than a craze after any particular fancy that may happen to be fashionable. The saxifrages were many and good, the seedling auriculas splendid; the very dark, almost black, hyacinths curious, and not too ornamental. Ordinary observers were most gratified by a few well-grown, sweet-scented, and lovely roses shown by Paul, of Cheshunt; the wonderfully fine pot violets exhibited by Turner, of Slough; and the huge clumps of lily of the valley, masses of snowy bloom and exquisite odour, shown by several well-known firms of florists.

Last Easter a good deal of money was made in country places by gathering primroses, which certain enterprising market gardeners sent up to London by the ton for the purpose of church decoration. This year they will hardly be so plentiful, because Easter falls earlier, and the cold winds have retarded the full and bountiful development of the blossoms. Of the vast quantity of primroses sold in London a considerable proportion has been imported this year.

Why should the chancels of our churches be decorated at Easter with costly exotics, such as gardenias, azalias, arum-lilies, and even orchids? They do not spring up spontaneously out of Mother Earth after a winter sleep, and consequently do not typify a resurrection to new and lovelier life. We put plenty of primroses and mosses and other woodland beauties in the nave; but even decoration should be consistent, and spring flowers as emblems of the Resurrection are quite as suitable for the Holy of Holies as for the Court of the Gentiles, or, in modern parlance, for the chancel as for the body of the church.

There is a fresh instance of the advance made by women towards the higher walks of life until lately only attainable by the sterner sex. A young lady has been appointed vaccination officer for Fordingbridge, in Hampshire, and the appointment has been ratified by the authorities. Perhaps the post is not a particularly exalted one, but, nevertheless, it is progress, and an encouragement to female workers. Even the obstinate anti-vaccinators, who pay fines rather than comply with the law, may now be charmed into complying with it at the persuasion of Miss Isabella Oates, who is stated to be young, attractive, amiable, and clever.

The quaint old Norman church dedicated to St. Oswald at Oswaldkirk, North Yorkshire, is going to be restored. In this edifice it was that John Tillotson, destined to become one of the most celebrated divines of the Church of England, preached his first sermon. He had only just been ordained at the time, although he was thirty years of age. Afterwards he became Curate of Cheshunt, where "he lived, with Sir Thomas Dacres, at the great house near the church." In his life of Tillotson, Mr. Birch tells a story which Southey has quoted, and which serves to show the attitude of the public towards preachers in the time of Cromwell. "He prevailed," says Birch, "with an old Oliverian soldier who set up for an Anabaptist preacher there, and preached in a red coat, and was much followed in that place, to desist from that encroachment upon the parish minister, and the usurpation of the priest's office, and to betake himself to some honest employment." This suggestion of the dishonesty of preaching is a significant sign of the times. It is to be hoped that the little church near Sowerby will not be restored out of recognition, but that so interesting a memento of the great Primate will be allowed to stand in its original condition as nearly as is possible.

The Government and the public are considerably indebted for the remarkably prompt inter-communication between England and Egypt to the admirably effective service of the Eastern Telegraph Company, which has, under the sagacious direction of Mr. John Pender, M.P., and Sir James Anderson, brought cable telegraphy to a wonderful pitch of perfection. A fine fleet of cable-ships, expressly built for this service, is maintained by the Eastern Telegraph Company. The latest is a very handsome steamship, the Electra, as beautifully fitted up as a nobleman's pleasure-yacht, a graceful steel vessel, reflecting great credit alike upon the skilful designer, Mr. Joseph Birnie, and on the constructors, Messrs. Napier and Sons, of Glasgow. The Electra, commanded by Captain Pattison, recently left the Thames for the Red Sea, to assist in laying a new cable required by the Government in connection with the military operations round Souakim. With what celerity the Eastern Telegraph Company's expert staff transmits messages from Souakim to London may be indicated by two simple facts. This commendable dispatch enabled the *Daily Telegraph*, the printing of which usually begins at three a.m., to give in its first issue of March 13 a telegram respecting an attack on the British Camp, which its exceptionally smart Special Correspondent, Mr. Phil Robinson, sent from Souakim at 3.20 the same morning. Again, on Thursday, March 19, shortly after three o'clock in the afternoon, the newspaper boys were selling in the streets a third edition of the *Daily Telegraph*, containing the telegraphic message which the same indefatigable Correspondent dispatched from Souakim at 1.23 p.m., announcing the reconnaissance in force of General Sir Gerald Graham.

The late Bishop of Lincoln was a man of considerable learning and of high intellectual attainments; but he made a great mistake in supposing that because he was a nephew of the poet Wordsworth he was therefore able to write his life. He did not possess the first requisite for such a task—the knowledge and the love of poetry. And not only was he indifferent to poetry generally, but it is stated in Sir Henry Taylor's "Autobiography" that when Dr. Wordsworth accepted the task he knew little either of his uncle or of his works. Diligence and erudition are invaluable qualities. They may produce a good Greek grammar or an exhaustive commentary; but such qualities will no more enable a man to understand a poet like Wordsworth than to command the Channel Fleet. The memoirs were written, for whatever the late Bishop undertook he accomplished; but the two heavy volumes rank with the books we look at but do not read. Truly does Sir Henry Taylor say that "the life is rather buried in the biography than brought to light in it."

Royalty has, of late years, graciously contributed to literature several interesting narratives of personal reminiscences and travel. Following the example set, the Empress Eugénie is about to publish "Some Recollections of My Life." Few women—we cannot call to mind one—have seen such stirring scenes and have been so immediately affected by the crises she has passed through as the sorrowing widow of Napoleon III., the bereaved mother of his unfortunate son. Her work, if it tells a tithe of what she recollects, will be an important addition to modern European history, and will be read with interest and respect by persons of every nationality.

There has been an immense falling off in the number of pictures sent in to the Paris Salon this year as compared with last. Large canvases are the order of the day, and this should be a satisfactory sign to the multitude who love art but cannot afford to possess specimens, for it shows that there is an inclination on the part of museums to buy. The Royal Academy Committee anticipate a decrease in the number of exhibitors of water-colours at Burlington House, but the aspirants for spaces on the walls of the oil-painting galleries are more numerous than ever, the increased number of smaller exhibitions notwithstanding.

Leicester continues to show the most indomitable, if not the most inexplicable, repugnance to vaccination, considering the antidote worse than the bane. It is stated that, without some special Act of Parliament, it will take more than two years to dispose of the cases in which proceedings have already been commenced against persons for refusing to comply with the provisions of the Compulsory Vaccination Act. It is to be feared that the vaccinators have in many instances been to blame: they have been too hasty, perhaps, in vaccinating children who were suffering from some inherited disease or were sickening for something. The children either died or became dreadful objects for life; and, in both cases, the result has been attributed to vaccination, which had nothing whatever to do with it. Many of us must have heard our doctor say:—"It is fortunate that I refused to vaccinate that child which died; the death would, without doubt, have been put down to vaccination."



The Emperor William, like many men of humbler position, feels most at home in old clothes, and uses an old uniform by way of *robe de chambre*, and slippers which from long use are perfectly easy to his feet. Vast piles of papers encumber the bureau in his private study, for he diligently reads everything before signing it, and frequently makes marginal notes with a square pencil such as is used by carpenters. He always gives the first audience in the morning to the Chief of his War Office, and then sees his other Ministers one by one. All other ordinary receptions are in a room adjoining, which is very plainly furnished, all the chairs, &c., being embroidered by members of the Imperial Family with bluettes, the common corn-flowers of the country, which the Emperor associates with his good mother, Queen Louise.

Apparently some years, perhaps some centuries, will have to elapse yet before the lion begins to lie down with the lamb, save as the cat lies down with the poor mouse between her paws. Wars and rumours of wars, with "additional income-tax" as a consequence, are rather more frequent than less; and, oddly enough, the two most Christian and most civilised countries, England and France (whose King, when she had one, was titularly "Most Christian"), are conspicuous among both the combatants and the combative. Russia, of course, is also Christian of a sort; but the heathen Tartar has always been but the distance of a scratch below the exterior of the Christian Russian.

Vitriol has become in France a recognised weapon of domestic warfare. So terribly frequent have been cases of mutilation with this corrosive, that a clever chemist has deemed it worth his while to invent a pomade which resists the effects of the acid. It is a collodion unguent, with which the face is to be glazed, and on which vitriol is harmless as water. Unfortunately, the viragoes who employ sulphuric acid to avenge their jealousy or to punish gambling husbands are not in the habit of giving their victims notice of their intended onslaughts. Therefore it is somewhat difficult to conceive how the invention is to benefit humanity. Does the enterprising chemist suggest that "no family should be without" the anti-vitriol ointment, and that all Paris should walk about with collodion-glazed faces? Or does he intend that those threatened with the sulphuric attack should ask for a truce until they have time to smear themselves with the protective preparation? It would be curious, though of course impossible, to find how much of the stuff has been sold and how many people it has saved from scars.

Luckily for the lessees of the theatres where comedy and burlesque are performed, the proceedings at the Central Criminal Court are over before those places of entertainment open for the evening; else representations for which money is charged would stand no chance against such exhibitions as are to be witnessed, *gratis*, when M. Rivière prosecutes Mrs. Weldon for libel, and Mr. Harcourt performs a variety of parts, with plenty of "gag" and vociferous "asides." It is not only "as good as a play," it is a play; but a court of justice is not a playhouse.

If phonetic spelling were adopted, novelists who introduce local dialects would be done for, as readers would never have the patience to grapple with the additional difficulty entailed. Even common Cockney pronunciation is a great trial, when it is represented phonetically. A boy was asked the other day what o'clock it was, and he answered in words which would probably be phonetically rendered by "Ah pah state," meaning "half past eight." Another boy was asked whether he liked toffee, and he answered in a word or words which would probably be rendered phonetically by "or flea," or "or fle," meaning "awfully." Perhaps "aw flea," or "aw fle," would be less unintelligible. What phonetic spelling might come to may be gathered from a report written by a late Inspector of Schools, the Rev. H. Brookfield, about the year 1857. He had requested some boys, who had learned the Lord's Prayer, the Catechism, and so on, from simple dictation and repeated dictation, to write down on a slate what they had so learned, and they wrote down their notions of the sounds they had heard. The result, if it did not smack so dreadfully of profanity, would convulse a canonised saint with laughter.

### THE CHURCH.

The Bishop of Oxford held a Confirmation at Eton College last Saturday, the service being attended by a large number of the students and their friends.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint the Bishop of London to be Dean of her Majesty's Chapels Royal. The enthronement of the new Bishop in St. Paul's Cathedral will take place at the afternoon service on April 8 (Wednesday in Easter week). Mrs. Temple, the wife of the Bishop, has been presented with a service of plate and three diamonds stars, subscribed for by "women of Devonshire," as a memento of their good will.

A handsome reredos has been erected in St. George's Church, Campden-hill, as a memorial to the late Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. Lawrell, R.A., by his wife. It rises to a height of about 13 ft., and occupies three sides of the apse, which has been newly decorated. This work is from the studio of Mr. James Forsyth, of Finchley-road.—A fine Munich stained-glass window has been placed in St. Mary's Church, Arbroath, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Muir, of Abbey Bank. It occupies the west end of the church, and consists of four lights, with elaborate tracery. The leading features of the window are large-sized figures of St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Andrew, and St. John. The artists are Messrs. Mayer and Co.

The inaugural meeting of the Drury-lane Working Girls' House and Day Nursery was held on Monday evening in the new premises of the institution.

A new school, built by the London School Board, was opened on Monday evening in Ruby-street, Old Kent-road. Mr. E. B. Gudgeon, a member of the Works Committee, presided. The Board has secured a fine site for this building (the 310th erected in London), and has been thus enabled to surround it with a capacious playground. It will accommodate 796 children, at a cost of £18 18s. 8d. per head. The site cost £5003, and the building £9179.

### THE PLAYHOUSES.

When, to the delight of many a playgoer, Mrs. Keeley and Mrs. Stirling—the Audrey and Celia of Macready's day—appeared together on the stage of the Criterion Theatre the other day to speak a rhymed address in furtherance of the National Aid Society, there was but one opinion concerning the success of the thing purely as an elocutionary feat. The ear so long tortured by modern mouthing and mumbling, the sense so long outraged by so-called actors and actresses who have not the faintest idea how to pronounce the Queen's English, or to point a sentence of dialogue, were at once fascinated by the style and method of these actresses of a past era. It was not so much, after all, that they had to say, but then how admirably they said it! The balance of every line was preserved. The force of every idea was at once sent home to the intelligence of the audience. We all knew how they could act, but what a surprise it was that they knew so well how to speak. No! that is not quite it. Did it not rather occur to us, if this comparatively lost art of elocutionary expression could be revived, how much more might be done for that higher and nobler stage work that is held in such contempt by the Philistine band that has got possession of the stage, and is holding it bravely against all comers? The triumph of Mrs. Keeley and Mrs. Stirling in speaking so well, only succeeded in emphasising the fact that at too many theatres actors and actresses appear who have never been taught how to speak on the stage so as to be understood by their audience. Of what use is the Shakspearean drama, or the poetic drama, or any work of imagination or pathos, when the author's words are, as a rule, rather inaudible or pointless? Who shall say whether the Philistines would have been able to dance over the grave of so much good work, and to chuckle with glee when ambitious work failed, if the artists intrusted with that work had been able to convey its meaning with force and propriety? We cannot make good plays popular without the assistance of such as understand the mere rudiments or alphabet of their art. But it is not alone in the poetic drama that our actors and actresses fail so lamentably. "Adrienne Lecouvreur" is not a poetic play, or a classic, or one that should require any particular training for its proper elaboration. It has been translated from the French by Mr. Herman, and rendered in adequate prose; but how strangely the whole work is misunderstood at the Lyceum! That Madame Modjeska should find some difficulty in pronouncing the English language and in dealing with the inflection of complicated sentences might well have been imagined. It is wonderful that she speaks English as well as she does. But Modjeska's English is infinitely more direct and forcible than that of the majority of the performers, who appear on the stage apparently to show how ineffective they can be. Old Michonnet the Prompter, the fantastical Abbé at the Court of Louis Quinze, the dissolute Prince de Bouillon—these should not be difficult characters to portray by such as have studied the art of acting. They all have leading characteristics. One has pathos, the other frippery, the third an aristocratic demeanour. But on the stage the points of the characters are one and all washed out, vapid, and colourless. That such a performance of "Adrienne Lecouvreur" could ever have been given on the boards of the Lyceum Theatre must surely strike any ordinary foreigner with surprise. It is high time that the truth should be told, and that plays superior to the ordinary run of touch-and-go farces should demand the assistance of such as have higher capabilities for acting than a very laudable ambition. When provincial theatres had stock companies, there was something like a school to learn in and to draw from; but nowadays the paying public has painfully to watch the process of training the young people who adopt the stage as a profession merely because it is a convenient one, and quite outside their individual talent. Lady Monckton has played for a considerable time as an amateur, and has only just joined the professional ranks; but she, at any rate, sets an excellent example to those with whom she was associated. She was called on at the last moment to study and play the Princesse de Bouillon; and had it not been for her, disaster would have followed disaster. In witnessing the Adrienne of Modjeska it is impossible to resist comparison; for Sara Bernhardt's Adrienne—when she cares to play it carefully—is as fine a thing as young playgoers have ever seen. Modjeska underrates the value of several important scenes in the play, and her love is very much in the minor key. Bernhardt made the actress stupified with the first true and honest love of her life. But Modjeska's feeling for her gallant preserver is expressed in various tones of acute depression. Her love is one long wail of despair. She misses the tenderness of the recital of "Les Deux Pigeons." She is too loud and emphatic in the dark scene with her rival, which should be intense, silent, and mysterious. But she awakened her audience to enthusiasm in the recital from Phèdre, where Bernhardt has often failed; and the whole of the death-scene is worthy of the closest critical study. Not so effective as Sara Bernhardt's, perhaps; not so thrilling, but still very beautiful in idea and sentiment. The Adrienne who has not been passionate in her earlier scenes can scarcely be expected to be so when her lover finds her in the throes of death; but for all that, Madame Modjeska's death, as Adrienne, is infinitely superior to anything we get from our leading actresses at this period of the enlightened nineteenth century. Mr. Henry Neville never looked better or more manly than as Maurice De Saxe; but he was not in love. He did not seem to feel the situation. He played it as a dashing cavalier of the Restoration period, not as a soldier who had some sentiment in his composition. He did not lack vigour, but he was occasionally wanting in refinement. Out of the smaller characters, only one, that of a merry, pretty, and fascinating little duchess, stood out, as played by Miss Florence West with very welcome brightness and intelligence. Anything sadder than the stage management of this play has seldom been seen on the boards of a theatre of the first importance. When Michonnet bundled the actors and actresses on to the stage from the decorous green-room of the Comédie Française, the play at once lapsed into the broadest farce, and utterly destroyed the illusion. But after all, it will be urged, the people had only come to see Modjeska, and not to trouble their heads about "Adrienne Lecouvreur." If so, they saw her, and were delighted at her performance; greeting her with cheers and pelting her with flowers and bouquets. C. S.

The initial meeting of the Institution of Naval Architects was held on Wednesday week in the hall of the Society of Arts, under the presidency of the Earl of Ravensworth, who, having given his annual address, called upon Captain G. H. Noel and Mr. P. Watts to read papers, respectively, upon the subjects of the Comparative Fighting Efficiency of Ships of War, and the Use of Water-Chambers for Reducing the Rolling of Ships.—The Earl of Ravensworth presided on Thursday afternoon and evening over meetings of the Institution held in the hall of the Society of Arts, when papers were submitted by Mr. J. H. Heck, Mr. F. P. Purvis, Mr. John Nicholson, Captain J. C. Tuxen, Mr. J. I. Thornycroft, Mr. E. A. Seaton, Mr. J. McFarlane Gray, and Mr. M. H. Robinson.

### MUSIC.

#### THE LONDON MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The concert of last week—the first of a new series—brought forward some works for the first time in England. Three movements from a series of ten orchestral pieces composed by Herr Anton Dvorák opened the programme. The whole are entitled "Legenden"; and the extracts give an impression of wild romanticism, in accordance with the general title. Another novelty here was Schumann's ballade, "The Minstrel's Curse," the text adapted by Miss G. E. Troutbeck from Uhland's poem, "Des Sangers Fluch." The music belongs to a comparatively late period of the composer's career, and is characterised by a dreary monotony that hinders any wish for a re-hearing. It is scored for five solo voices, chorus, and orchestra; the soloists in last week's performance having been Misses C. Elliot and L. Little, and Messrs. H. Thorndike, H. Piercy, and W. Forth. Another, and the concluding, novelty of the programme was Herr Rheinberger's setting of F. Von Hoffmann's version of the well-known legend "Christoforus," given to the English adaptation by the Earl of Wiltton. Like Schumann's work, this is also for five solo voices, chorus, and orchestra. This recent work of the composer contains some highly effective writing, particularly in the choral and orchestral details. A special effect was created by the highly dramatic chorus illustrative of Satanic revelry, which was greatly applauded, and had to be repeated. The soloists in this work were Misses Elliot, Little, and A. Fripp, and Messrs. Piercy and Thorndike. The chorus singing during the evening was more generally satisfactory than the orchestral performance. Mr. Barnby conducted.

The third concert of the Philharmonic Society's present season took place last week, too late for comment until now. The programme included a new orchestral "Serenade," composed expressly for the society by Mr. T. Wingham, several of whose overtures and symphonies we have had previous occasion to commend. The work now referred to consists of three movements—an "Andante Espressivo," a "Scherzino," and a final Rondo. Each division contains some pleasing writing, the orchestral colouring being skilfully varied. It was finely played, and it and the composer, who conducted its performance, were enthusiastically received. Herr Joachim gave an excellent rendering of Brahms' violin concerto, and Signor Bottesini displayed his extraordinary powers on the contrabasso in pieces of his own composition.

The Sacred Harmonic Society's season is over, so far as its concerts are concerned. That of yesterday (Friday) week was appropriated to a performance of "Elijah." The principal solo vocalists were Miss A. Williams, Madame Patey, Mr. Maas, and Mr. Santley. Mr. Charles Hallé conducted. The supplemental conversazione will take place at Prince's Hall on May 8.

The Crystal Palace Concert of Saturday afternoon (the last but three of the present season) included a selection from the works of Beethoven, closing with the grandest possible climax, the choral symphony; the solo vocalists in which were Misses Marriott and McKenzie, Mr. B. McGuckin, and Mr. F. King. The concert was in remembrance of Beethoven's death, which took place on March 26, 1827.

The Popular Concerts closed their twenty-seventh season with the afternoon performance of last Saturday and the evening concert of the following Monday. On each occasion, Herr Joachim, Herr Straus, Mdlle. Kleeberg, Miss Zimmermann, Signor Piatti, and Signor Bottesini contributed to a varied instrumental programme. The Misses Nunn were the vocalists on Saturday, and Mr. Santley sang, with special effect, on Monday. The Popular Concerts will be resumed early in November.

The musical announcements for Good Friday promised a grand performance of "The Messiah" at the Royal Albert Hall. Easter Monday will offer a special attraction at the Albert Hall, where Mr. Austin will give his National Holiday Festival Concert, with a powerful programme.

#### THE CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY.

Mr. Carl Rosa will enter on a new London season at Drury Lane Theatre next Monday evening, this being the third series of performances given by Mr. Rosa at that establishment. The forthcoming season will be of longer duration than that of last year, extending, on this occasion, to eight weeks. Much interest will attach to the production of the new opera composed expressly for Mr. Rosa by Mr. A. Goring Thomas, whose "Esmeralda," also commissioned by Mr. Rosa, was brought out with such success in 1883, and repeated with the same result abroad. The new work is entitled "Nadeshda" and is founded on a Russian subject, the text being by Mr. Julian Sturgis. Another interesting feature will be the first performance in London of the English version of M. Massenet's "Manon," produced by Mr. Rosa, with great success, at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, last January. With the excellent company, including Madame Marie Roze and other eminent artists, associated under Mr. Rosa's management, and with the extensive and varied repertoire of the establishment, there is every prospect of special success. The comparatively early hours and the non-restriction as to evening dress are welcome features in the arrangements.

Mr. Edward Clarke, M.P., presided last Saturday evening over the annual dinner of the Press Club, at which Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., Sir R. Cross, M.P., and Mr. Charles Russell, M.P., were also included in the list of speakers.

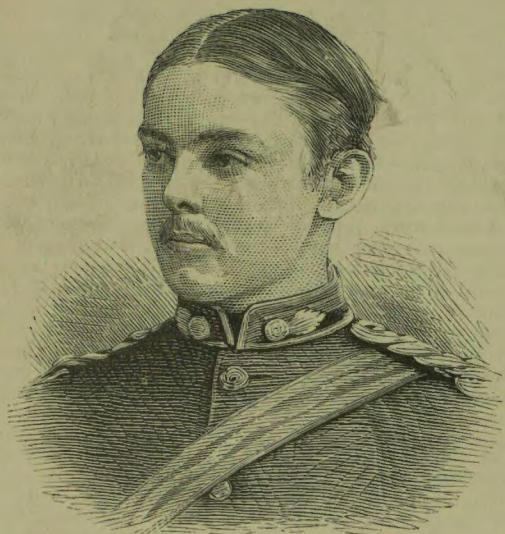
The fortieth annual banquet of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, which will be given at the Freemasons' Tavern next July, will be made the occasion of a farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft on their retirement from theatrical management. Mr. S. B. Bancroft will himself preside.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Fund for the Relief of the Orphans of Sea Fishermen have granted relief to fifteen sons and twenty daughters of the men who have lately lost their lives in the lamentable fishing disaster in the neighbourhood of Stornoway. The committee have also granted relief to the orphans of three Stonehaven fishermen.

At the meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works yesterday week, the solicitor to the Board reported that they had no power to lend £20,259 to the School Board for industrial schools, as they could only lend for industrial schools such sums as had been sanctioned by the Home Secretary. The subject was referred back to the Finance Committee. A motion to apply to Parliament for power to levy a rate of 1d. in the pound for Fire Brigade purposes was lost.

The two prisoners Cunningham and Burton, who are charged in connection with the dynamite outrages in London, were again brought up at Bow-street Police Court yesterday week, when the case on the part of the Crown was concluded, and both prisoners were committed for trial under the Treason-Felony Act 11 and 12 Vic., c. 12, sec. 3. Among the witnesses examined was Sergeant Cole, who removed the dynamite from the crypt in Westminster Hall to the top of the stairs. The remainder of the evidence was chiefly scientific.





THE LATE LIEUTENANT E. M. B. NEWMAN, R.E.,  
KILLED IN THE SOUDAN.



THE LATE CAPT. DUDLEY DIGGES DALISON, SCOTS GUARDS,  
KILLED IN THE SOUDAN.



THE LATE LIEUTENANT MONTAGU SEYMOUR, R.N.,  
KILLED IN THE SOUDAN.

#### OFFICERS KILLED IN THE SOUDAN.

Captain Maximilian Dudley Digges Dalison, of the Scots Guards, killed on March 20 at the battle of Hasheen, was the eldest son of Mr. Dalison, of Hamptons, in Kent, and Gratwell, Lincolnshire, by Matilda, daughter of the late Rev. Robert Alexander, Prebendary of Derry Cathedral. Captain Dalison was born in February, 1852. He came of an ancient stock of cavaliers and loyal gentlemen; his ancestor, Sir Thomas Dalison, Bart., fell under the Royal banner at Naseby, in 1645, when the title became extinct in the confusion of the time. He was closely connected with the families of Hammond, of St. Albans Court, Shaw, and Mouson. Captain Dalison was well known for his devotion to his profession. He acted on the Staff at Hythe for five years as Lieutenant Instructor of Musketry. He was a soldier of high courage and splendid physique, whose stately bearing and grand countenance told of chivalrous honour and tender purity. He will be long missed and mourned, not only by his own family but by the service of which he was an ornament and the comrades to whom he was dear. He married, October, 1875, Grace, daughter of the late Mr. Henry Beresford Pierce, of Bedale, grand-daughter of Admiral Sir John Poore Beresford, Bart.

Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Mitchell Taylor, 19th Hussars, was born Sept. 9, 1849. He entered the service Dec. 30, 1871, and obtained the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel Sept. 10, 1884.

He served with his regiment in Egypt, and was present at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir. He was mentioned in despatches, and obtained the brevet rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, receiving the medal, with clasps, the fourth class of the Osmanieh, and the Khedive's Star. He remained in charge of the Egyptian cavalry, and only resigned that appointment in September, 1884, on receiving further promotion. He served in the Soudan War of last year as Brigade-Major of the Cavalry Brigade, and was present at the engagements of El Teb and Tamai, upon which occasion he was mentioned in the despatches, and received two clasps. In the present expedition he had gone, with his regiment, as far as Wady Halfa, where he was laid down with typhoid fever, to which he succumbed, on Feb. 6, at Cairo, after a painful illness of three months.

The five officers killed on Sunday week in the attack of Osman Digna's followers on the zereba camp near Souakim were Lieutenant Swinton, of the Berkshire Regiment; Lieutenant Seymour, of the Naval Brigade; Captain Romilly and Lieutenant Newman, of the Royal Engineers; and Captain Van Beverhoudt, of the 17th Bengal Native Infantry. Surgeon-Major Lane, attached to the Scots Guards, was wounded in the action on the Friday before, where Captain Dalison was killed, and died next day on board the Ganges hospital-ship. Quartermaster Charles Eastmead, R.E., was killed on the Monday by the attack on a convoy going to the zereba.

Lieutenant Montagu H. M. Seymour, R.N., was First

Lieutenant of the Dolphin, and saw seventeen years' sea service. Before his appointment in May last to the Dolphin, he was successively Midshipman of the Triumph, Channel Squadron; Sub-Lieutenant of the Antelope, in the Mediterranean; and Senior Lieutenant of the Dwarf. He was gazetted Lieutenant in August, 1878. He changed his name from Gruggen to Seymour some years ago.

Lieutenant Edwin Montague Browne Newman was the eldest son of Lieutenant-Colonel Newman, R.A., and was born at Corfu, April 23, 1862. He was educated at Wellington College, where he gained Lord Derby's French Prize twice, also the German Prize, and that for "Chemistry and Physics," and the Modern Exhibition. He passed fourth into the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, where he won the French, German, and Chemistry prizes; and thence passed fifth into the Royal Engineers on July 26, 1881. He served in India, in the Punjab, at Peshawur, Chirat, and Bangalore, and in 1881 passed the higher standard in Hindostani. He left Bangalore, recently, with the Madras "Queen's Own" Sappers and Miners, to join the forces at Souakim, and was there killed, while superintending the construction of the zereba, on Sunday week, in the twenty-third year of his age.

The Mercers' Company have given twenty-five guineas to the East London Union for Advanced Education (evening classes) Stepney Centre.



THE WAR IN THE SOUDAN: DISEMBARKATION OF THE 15TH SIKHS AT SOUAKIM.  
SKETCH BY LIEUTENANT J. L. R. MACLURCAN, ROYAL MARINES BATTALION.





The Mikado (Mr. R. Temple).  
Nanki-Pooh (Mr. Durward Lely).  
Katisha (Miss Brandram).

Pooh-Bah (Mr. R. Barrington).  
The "Three Little Maids from School" (Misses Sibyl Grey, L. Braham, and Jessie Bond).  
Ko-Ko (Mr. G. Grossmith).

Ko-Ko (Mr. G. Grossmith).  
The "Three Little Maids from School" (Misses Sibyl Grey, L. Braham, and Jessie Bond).  
Yum-Yum (Miss L. Braham).

Pish-Tush (Mr. F. Bovill).  
Nanki-Pooh (Mr. Lely).



## THE WAR IN THE SOUDAN.

A few additional Sketches of the late campaign in the interior of the Soudan, some by our Special Artist, Mr. Melton Prior, and some contributed by a private of the 1st Life Guards, W. S. Perry, who was in the "Heavy" Camel Corps with the forces commanded by the late General Sir Herbert Stewart on Jan. 17 and Jan. 19, in the advance to Metamneh, will be found in this Number of our Journal. The gallant Life Guardsman happened to stand beside one of the gentlemen who are in correspondence with us in the fighting "square" at the battle of Abou Klea, and to meet him again before Metamneh; he is a man of some education, and has fair skill with the pencil, which he was encouraged to use in sketching these characteristic incidents of a soldier's experience in those stirring days of action. One of his Sketches represents the late Colonel Burnaby, to whom the Guardsmen were greatly attached for his personal qualities and kindness to all of them, as he appeared when riding a camel. Another is that of two soldiers of the outposts on picket duty, challenging a man who is approaching them in the darkness of night, and doubtful whether he is to be fired at, as one of the enemy's scouts, or whether he may not be one of their own comrades returning to the picket. In the third of these Sketches, an English officer and soldiers, on their way from Gakdul Wells to the camp with a convoy, on Jan. 30, thirteen days after the battle of Abou Klea, are passing near the battle-field, and find some wounded Arabs, strange to relate, still alive, but in a very shocking condition; they are shown in the act of tending these miserable fellow-creatures, but we do not know whether the poor Soudanese warriors died after all; it is wonderful that they could have lived so long. Our Special Artist's subjects include one of the "Dangers of the Road," messengers with despatches attacked by some Arabs, who are trying to cut them off; the arrival of the first batch of wounded at Korti; and the Soudanese of General Gordon's force, who came down in the steamers from Khartoum to the British camp, entertaining themselves at Korti with a rude musical performance on the "tom-toms." Mr. Melton Prior has also sketched the portraits of three of Gordon's native officers, a General, a Colonel, and a Major, who were in military command of the steamers that Gordon sent down from Khartoum, and who afterwards came to Lord Wolseley's head-quarters with the returning British force, under Sir Redvers Buller. The other Soudan War Illustrations presented this week refer to the military operations around Souakim. One of the frequently repeated night attacks on the camp adjacent to that town, just before the assembling of Sir Gerald Graham's army there, but which were invariably repulsed by the garrison, though upon more than one occasion the enemy did some damage to the sand-bag ramparts, is the subject of a large Engraving in our Extra Supplement. The forces now collected, however, are more than sufficient to prevent the enemy approaching within a distance of several miles; and the ground about the town and forts is also commanded by the fire of British gun-boats in the harbour. We have to thank an officer of the Royal Marines, Lieutenant J. L. R. MacLurcan, for a Sketch of the scene at the landing of the 15th Sikhs from India. The appearance of those fine specimens of the fighting force of our Indian Empire, whose valour and loyalty have been proverbial since the Mutiny war of 1857, excited much attention at Souakim, both among the Europeans and the native population. One article of their attire is very peculiar, a circular piece of steel, a quait with a sharp edge, which is worn on the head over the turban, and which they were able, when fighting in the manner of their nation, to take off and throw as a missile weapon, striking an enemy within a moderate distance, and doing this with formidable effect. The Sikhs will on no account give up wearing this ancient implement of their warfare, and they are equally attached to the national costume, the tight-fitting trousers unlike the apparel of most other Asiatic people, and the rule of never cutting their hair or beards. They are a singular race, differing in religion, manners, and institutions, as well from the Mohammedans as from the Hindoos, and possessing a distinct creed and code of laws; they were formerly the rulers of the Punjab, until its conquest, in 1848, by the British Government of India, to which the Sikhs have since rendered valiant and faithful service.

It was expected this week at Souakim that Sir Gerald Graham's force would advance on Wednesday to attack Osman Digna's main position at Tamanieb; but on Monday there were reports from the spies that nearly all the Arabs, reckoned at seven thousand, who composed Osman Digna's force have deserted him, and some think he is likely to sue for peace. The arrival of the New South Wales Contingent, by the steam-ship Iberia, from Sydney, caused great joy in the British camp on Sunday last. The Australian battalion of six hundred volunteer infantry, wearing a scarlet uniform, had a fine appearance, and was inspected and praised by General Graham. It has been attached to the Brigade of Guards. Another portion of this colonial force with artillery came next day by the steam-ship Australasia, and was received with equal acclamation.

The British army on the Nile, above Dongola, is now perfectly quiescent, and has withdrawn from its former headquarters at Korti. Lord Wolseley, on Monday last, set forth with several officers of his Staff, from Dongola and the Upper Nile, on his return to Egypt. He is to meet Prince Hassan, the Khedive's brother, at Wady Halfa, and is expected at Cairo on April 13, after which he may either go to Souakim, or may possibly come home to resume the duties of his office as Adjutant-General of her Majesty's Forces. No fear of an advance of the Mahdi is now entertained between Merawi and Dongola; the war in those parts is over.

Mr. Charles Edward Malden, of the South-Eastern Circuit, has been appointed Recorder of Thetford, in succession to Mr. Carlos Cooper, who (as stated in our Supplement) has recently been transferred to the Recordership of King's Lynn.

The Goldsmiths' scholarships offered in connexion with the March entrance examination to Girton College, Cambridge, have been awarded to Miss Christina Barnard, of the Highbury High School, and to Miss Caroline Bisset Best, of the North London Collegiate School for Girls. The Classical Foundation Scholarship has been awarded to Miss Adela Marion Kensington, of Bedford College, London.

Mr. Mundella, M.P., presided last Saturday at a conference, held at the rooms of the Society of Arts, with reference to penny dinners. He said that the inspectors had been almost surprised at the beneficial effect these dinners had on the vigour and the mental activity of the children. The Birmingham Committee had reduced the price of the dinners to one halfpenny, and this covered the cost of the food.

Mrs. Weldon was on Monday found guilty, in the Central Criminal Court, of having failed to justify her libellous statements concerning M. Riviere, the jury strongly recommending her to mercy. The Common Serjeant sentenced her to six months' imprisonment, without hard labour, and ordered her to enter into her own recognisance in £50, and find two sureties in £25 each, to keep the peace for two years.

## THE PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Mrs. LANGTRY.

Sole Proprietor, Mr. EDGAR BRUCE. Season under the direction of Mr. HENRY L. ARBEE. ON MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 6, at 8.15, will be revived for a limited number of performances, the successful Play, in four acts, adapted from Sardou's "Les Intimes," by R. C. Stephenson and Clement Scott, entitled PERIL. Characters by Mr. Langtry, Mr. H. Berthelme Tree, Mr. Everill, Mr. Garrie, Mr. Crisp, Mr. Weatherly, Mr. Gration, Mr. Thornbury, Mr. Arthur Stirling, Miss Annie Rose, Miss Ducre, and Mrs. LANGTRY. Doors open at 7.45. PERIL at 8.15. Carriages at Eleven. Box-Office open daily from Eleven till Five. No fees. Telephone 3700. Matinee of PERIL, SATURDAY NEXT, APRIL 11, at Two o'clock. Doors open 1.45. Carriages at Five.—THE PRINCE'S THEATRE, Coventry-street, W.

## PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr.

WILSON BARRETT. EVERY EVENING, at 7.50, THE SILVER KING, the new and original Drama, in five acts (by Henry A. Jones and Henry Herman). Produced under the sole direction of Mr. Wilson Barrett. Characters by Messrs. Wilson Barrett, Willard, Speakman, Cooper, Doone, Walton, Huntley, Fulton, Bernage, De Solia, Foss, Elliott, Evans, &c., and George Barrett; Mesdames Ormsby, Huntley, Dickens, Cook, &c., and Miss Eastlake. The Scenery by Messrs. Beverley, Stafford Hall, Bruce Smith, and Walter Hann. At Seven, THE COLOUR-SERGEANT. Mr. George Barrett, &c. Doors open at 6.30. Box-Office, 9.30 to Five. No fees. Prices: Private Boxes, one to nine guineas; Stalls, 10s.; Dress Circle, 6s.; Upper Boxes, 3s. Two Performances of THE SILVER KING on EASTER MONDAY. Business Manager, Mr. J. H. Cobbe.

## JAPANESE VILLAGE.

Under Royal Patronage, ALBERT-GATE, HYDE PARK (Near Top of Sloane-street). Daily (Good Friday excepted), 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. One Shilling. Children under Twelve, Sixpence. EASTER MONDAY, Half-a-Crown. Children under Twelve, One Shilling. Japanese Performances in the New Annex at Twelve, Three, and Eight (free). MILITARY BAND. Managing Director, TANNACK BUCHROSEN.

## EASTER HOLIDAYS, 1885. ST. JAMES'S GRAND AND MINOR HALLS.

## MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS'

THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SERIES OF EASTER HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES will commence on EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 6, when an ENTIRELY NEW AND MOST ATTRACTIVE PROGRAMME will be given. Debut of the great American humorist, Mr. W. P. SWEATNAM.

EXTRA GRAND DAY PERFORMANCES will be given during EASTER MONDAY AFTERNOON at THREE. EASTER TUESDAY AFTERNOON at THREE. EASTER WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON at THREE. EASTER THURSDAY AFTERNOON at THREE.

On Easter Monday Afternoon and Night the Performances will be given in the Great Hall, which affords ample accommodation for FIVE THOUSAND VISITORS at each representation. Fauteuils, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s.; Balcony, 2s.; Great Area and Gallery, 1s. No fees of any kind. Programme free. Omnibuses run direct to the door of St. James's Hall from all parts of London. Visitors can also book from all stations on the Metropolitan and District Railways to the doors of St. James's Hall by asking for tickets to Piccadilly-circus.

THE VALE OF TEARS.—DORÉ'S Last Great PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the DORE GALLERY, 30, New Bond-street, with his other great pictures. Ten to Six Daily. Is.

ANNO DOMINI, by EDWIN LONG, R.A.—This great work is NOW ON VIEW, together with other important works, at the GALLERIES, 108, New Bond-street. Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL EXHIBITION of OIL PAINTINGS by Artists of the British and Foreign Schools is now open at THOMAS McLEAN'S GALLERY, 7, Haymarket. Admission, including Catalogue, 1s.

## MONTE CARLO.—MUSICAL SEASON (CONCERTS, REPRESENTATIONS).

In addition to the usual Concerts, directed by Monsieur Romeo Accursi, the Société des Bains de Mer de Monaco has authorised M. Pasdeloup to arrange a Series of Extraordinary Grand Musical Entertainments (Concerts, Representations) this Winter.

The services of the following distinguished Artists have been already retained:—  
Messieurs Kreuss, Devries, Verguet, Salla, Capoul, Capoul, Donadio, Biorkstein, Frank-Duvernoy, Couturier, Belloc, Villaret, &c.  
Simmonet.  
Added to which the celebrated Instrumentalists will appear:

VIOLINISTS: Mons. Sivori, Mons. Marsik, Miss N. Carpenter, American artiste, 1st Conservatoire Prize, 1883.  
PIANISTS: Mons. Planté, Mons. Th. Ritter, Madame Essipoff.

HARPIST: Mons. Hasselmanns.

These Extraordinary Representations will be given each Wednesday and Saturday, commencing the end of January and terminating the middle of March. M. Pasdeloup has the excellent idea to terminate each concert by fragments of operas in costume, and scenery—viz.:

1st Concert.	LES HUGUENOTS.	Fourth Act.
2nd "	RIGOLETTO.	Fourth Act.
3rd "	LUCIA.	Selection.
4th "	MANON.	Second Act.
5th "	FAUST.	Prison Scene.
6th "	HERODIADE.	Selection.
7th "	FAVORITE.	Selection.
8th "	LA TRAVIATA.	Fourth Act.
9th "	LA TRAVIATA.	Fourth Act.
10th "	LA TRAVIATA.	Fourth Act.
11th "	LA TRAVIATA.	Fourth Act.
12th "	LA TRAVIATA.	Fourth Act.

A. BLONDIN, Secretary.

## EASTER ARRANGEMENTS.—LONDON, BRIGHTON,

AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.—ALL EXPRESS AND ORDINARY RETURN TICKETS will be extended as usual. EXTRA TRAINS FOR ISLE OF WIGHT.—The 4.55 p.m. from Victoria and London Bridge will convey passengers for Ryde, Sandown, Shanklin, Ventnor, Newport, and Cowes, on April 1 and 5 (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class).

BRIGHTON.—EVERY SUNDAY, AND ON GOOD FRIDAY, A CHEAP FIRST CLASS TRAIN from Victoria 10.45 a.m. and 12.30 p.m., calling at Clapham Junction and Croydon. Day Return Tickets, 10s.

## VOLUNTEER REVIEW AT BRIGHTON.—EASTER

MONDAY.—The March Past of the Volunteers, at the Grand Stand on the Brighton Race Course, will take place about 11.30 a.m. A SPECIAL FIRST CLASS EXPRESS-TRAIN will leave Victoria 9.30 a.m.; Returning from Brighton 4.45 p.m. Fare there and back, 15s. First Class; 17s. Pullman Car. Tickets will be available to return by any Train, according to class, any day up to and including Monday, April 13.

## CRYSTAL PALACE.—FREQUENT DIRECT TRAINS

DAILY to the Crystal Palace from London Bridge, New Cross; also from Victoria, York-road, Kensington, West Brompton, and Chelsea.

## BRANCH BOOKING-OFFICES.—For the convenience of

Passengers who may desire to take their Tickets in advance, the following Branch Booking Offices, in addition to those at the Victoria and London Bridge Stations, are now open for the issue of Tickets to all Stations on the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, to the Isle of Wight, Paris, and the Continent, &c.:

The Company's General West-End Booking-Office, 28, Regent-circus, Piccadilly, W., and 8, Grand Hotel-buildings (under the Grand Hotel), Trafalgar-square. Hay's City Agency, 4, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C. Cook's Tourist Offices, Ludgate-circus. Gaze's Tourist Office, 142, Strand. Jakins' Office, "The Red Cap," Camden-road. Whiteley's, Westbourne-grove.

Letts and Co., 33, King William-street, City. Tickets issued at these offices will be dated to suit the convenience of passengers. These Two Offices will remain open until 10.0 p.m. on April 1, 2, and 3. For full particulars of Times, Fares, &c., see Handbills and Time-Books, to be had at all Stations, and at any of the above Branch Booking Offices. (By order) J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

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Copies will be supplied direct from the Office to any part of the United Kingdom and the Channel Islands, for any period, at the rate of 6d. for each Number, paid in advance.

## ABROAD.

The yearly subscription abroad, including the Christmas Number, is 36s. 4d. (on thin paper, 32s.), with the following exceptions:—

To Abyssinia, Aden, Borneo, Ceylon, India, Java, Labuan, Penang, Philippine Islands, Sarawak, Singapore, the Transvaal, and Zanzibar, 41s. (thin paper, 34s.).

To Madagascar (except St. Mary and Tamatave), 45s. (on thin paper, 36s. 4d.).

Subscribers are specially advised to order the thick paper edition, the appearance of the engravings on the thin paper copies being greatly injured by the print at the back showing through.

Newspapers for foreign parts must be posted within eight days of the date of publication, irrespective of the departure of the mails.

Subscriptions must be paid in advance, direct to the Publishing Office, 198, Strand, in English money; by cheque crossed the Union Bank of London; or by Post-Office Order, payable at the East Strand Post Office, to INGRAM BROTHERS, of 198, Strand, London.

## THE COURT.

The Queen held a Council at Windsor on Thursday week, at which Sir Edward Malet, British Ambassador at Berlin, was introduced and sworn as a member of the Privy Council. Lady Emyntude Malet was presented to her Majesty on her marriage by the Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe. Lady Wolseley, wife of General Lord Wolseley, arrived at Windsor in the evening on a visit to the Queen. On Saturday last the Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince Albert Victor of Wales, visited her Majesty. This being the first anniversary of the loss of the Queen's beloved son Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, her Majesty and the Royal family visited the Royal vault in St. George's in the morning, and in the afternoon the Queen, with Princess Beatrice and the Duchess of Albany, attended the evening service in St. George's Chapel. The anthem "Blessed are the departed," by Spohr, and Chopin's "Funeral March" were performed. Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein dined with the Queen and Royal family. The Marquis of Lorne, K.T., arrived at the castle. On Sunday morning the Queen and Royal family, and the members of her Majesty's household, attended Divine service in the private chapel. The Very Rev. R. Davidson, Dean of Windsor, assisted by the Rev. Canon E. Capel Cure, M.A., Rector of St. George's, Hanover-square, officiated, and the Rev. Canon Cure preached the sermon. Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), attended by Lady Sophia Macnamara, and the Marquis of Lorne, left the castle at two o'clock for London. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein visited her Majesty and remained to luncheon. The Duchess of Albany, who had been on a visit to the Queen, left Windsor Castle in the afternoon. The Duke of Edinburgh visited her Majesty. The Queen will contribute £50 to the guarantee fund in connection with the approaching visit of the British Association to Aberdeen; and her Majesty has sent £50 to Lady Rosebery, the treasurer of the Princess of Wales's branch of the National Aid Society; likewise a case of tobacco for the use of the soldiers and sailors in Egypt and the Soudan. Sir Henry Ponsonby has written to Lord Aberdare that the Queen will be happy to patronise the Welsh Eisteddfod which is to be held at Aberdare in August.

On Monday afternoon the Queen and Princess Beatrice left Windsor, and travelled by railway to Portsmouth, where they proceeded on board the Royal yacht Victoria and Albert, and spent the night in the Harbour. Next morning her Majesty crossed the Channel to Cherbourg on her way to Savoy.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor, arrived at Marlborough House yesterday week from Germany. Their Royal Highnesses dined in the evening with the Earl of Rosebery at Lansdowne House. The Empress Eugénie visited the Princess of Wales. The Prince and Princess, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor, left Marlborough House last Saturday morning on a visit to the Queen at Windsor Castle. This being the anniversary of the Duke of Albany's death, their Royal Highnesses visited the Royal vault, at St. George's Chapel, and afterwards returned to London. On Sunday the Prince and Princess, Prince Albert Victor, and Prince George, and Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud were present at Divine service. Accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, the Prince visited the Duke of Genoa at the Alexandra Hotel in the afternoon. His Royal Highness dined with the Prince and Princess in the evening. On Monday morning the Prince presided at a meeting at Marlborough House of the Royal Commission of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition (London, 1886). The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh visited the Prince and Princess, and remained to luncheon.

Her Royal and Imperial Highness the Duchess of Edinburgh, her Royal Highness the Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), and the Marquis of Lorne were present at the conversation of the Royal Water-Colour Society Art Club on Thursday week evening.

A marriage has been arranged, and will shortly take place, between the Earl De Grey and Gladys, Countess of Lonsdale.

## "THE MIKADO."

The new comic opera of "The Mikado" at the Savoy Theatre may rank with the successes of Sir Arthur Sullivan and Mr. W. S. Gilbert. So quaint are the characters and so picturesque the handsome Japanese costumes, that this diverting musical piece offers especial opportunities for the Artist, as may be judged from the Sketches given this week of the principal dramatic personages in this delightfully melodious and humorous opera. Prime favourites as they are, the "three little maids fresh from school" richly merit the place of honour. To the manner born seem Misses Sibyl Grey, Leonora Braham, and Jessie Bond, as they demurely creep forward, and, impersonating respectively Peep-Bo, Yum-Yum, and Pitti-Sing, render a trio with an ingenious freshness that commands an instant encore. The due amount of "local colour" is added by the accomplished scenic artist, and by the rest of the cast delineated—the archly funny Mikado himself (Mr. R. Temple); the similarly droll Minister of many offices, Pooli-Bah (Mr. Rutland Barrington); the droll comical high executioner, Ko-Ko (Mr. George Grossmith); the amusing Pish-Tush (Mr. F. Bovill); and the tragically affectionate Katisha (Miss Brandram), to avoid the amorous pursuit of which ancient but ardent dame the tenor hero, Nanki-Poo (Mr. Durward Lely) flies from home, and falls in love with the fascinating Yum-Yum (Miss Leonora Braham). Such are the personages in "The Mikado"; or, the Town of Titipu," represented with fidelity by our Artist.

At a conference held last Saturday, under the presidency of the Marquis of Lorne, it was resolved to form a permanent council to extend the operations of the National Society for the Protection of Young Girls (the Princess Louise Home).

Our Portrait of the late Sir T. Bazley is from a photograph by J. and C. Watkins, Parliament-street; that of the late Captain Dalison, by Lambert Weston and Son, Dover; that of Lieut.-Colonel Taylor, by Robinson, Grafton-street, Dublin; that of Lieutenant Seymour, R.N., by W. N. Malby, of Chichester; and that of Lieutenant Newman, R.E., by Elliott and Fry, Baker-street.

The past week's arrivals of live stock and fresh meat at Liverpool from American and Canadian ports were, of live stock a decrease on the preceding week's imports, and of fresh meat an increase—the total arrivals being 1,24 cattle, 11,070 quarters of beef, and 1855 carcasses of mutton, against the preceding week's imports of 2378 cattle, 211 sheep, 8507 quarters of beef, and 1105 carcasses of mutton.

The Secretary for War has approved of the attendance of 43,000 Volunteers in the Northern District in camps of exercise in the ensuing season, at an estimated expense to the State of nearly £24,000. In the other military districts of Great Britain sanction has also been given for the formation of camps on a larger scale than has ever previously been known, the total number of men who it is estimated will go under canvas during the season amounting to no less than 100,000.





THE WAR IN THE SOUDAN: A NIGHT ATTACK ON THE CAMP AT SOUAKIM.

DRAWN BY R. C. WOODVILLE.



## FINE ARTS.

## MR. WALLIS'S EXHIBITION.

Although Mr. Wallis, at the French Gallery (120, Pall-mall), is for the most part faithful to foreigners like Professor Müller, Karl Heffner, Seiler, Chevillard, and others whom he has made known in this country, and who, in return, have made his exhibitions attractive, yet he is always ready to admit the claims of new and rising artists. In the present exhibition, the first place among the recruits—if such a term may be applied to a painter whose work is eagerly sought for among Continental collectors—is Mr. Aug. Holmberg. His really remarkable picture, "Far from the World, its Toils and its Cares" (58), represents the interior of a stately apartment, painted with exquisite care and delicate colouring. There are only three occupants—two elderly ecclesiastics at table, and a younger one, dressed in scarlet, who, in the deep recess, is thoughtfully contemplating his companions' eager gestures, regardless of the peaceful landscape seen through the window. Amongst the accessories of the room—which is probably in some Cardinal's palace among the Alban hills—is a fine landscape-subject picture, occupying nearly one side of the wall, and in this way forming a clever background to the scene. The "Song of Scanderberg" (52), by P. Joanowitz, is painted with considerable force. A rugged old man is seated on the floor, and to the twang of a rude instrument is singing to a group of Servians those lays of old which at length stirred them to be "seris no more." The mixture of listlessness and energy in the figure of the man in red, seated on the settle, is especially clever; whilst the group of attentive men and women, who have gathered round the minstrel, is full of reality. Herr Joanowitz is a Slav, probably, of some particular nationality, although his art is essentially German and marked by the influence of Professor Müller; but Herr Imré Révész, we presume, is of Magyar race, and he also gives us an insight into the influence of song upon his fellow-countrymen. He has chosen an episode in the romantic life of Sándor Petöfi, the Burns of Hungary, by turns student, stroller, soldier, and journalist. The poet is represented seated at a table, in a wayside inn or peasant's house, reciting to the astonished hearers "his rustic song, sweeter than the nightingale's," as Heine said of his poetry. A third work of an equally little-known, but equally deserving artist, is, "He Won't Hurt You," by Geza Peske (92)—two sisters in a barn or store-room, whither two geese have followed them to be fed with maize, of which the husks and pods are scattered about the floor. The hesitation of the little child, who is half disposed to resent the advances of the old goose, is full of simple grace and truthfulness; but this is only one point in a work which by its management of light and excellent drawing promises future successes for the artist.

Of the better known supporters of Mr. Wallis's Gallery, Professor Müller sends a number of Cairene scenes and studies, painted with his usual fidelity, and with ever increasing delicacy. "Bazaar-street" (15), is a scene of sedate business, most suggestive of the mixture of Oriental self-possession and keenness for gain; the most effective figure being that of a girl carefully carrying away a green bowl. His study of a negro woman, "Toujours Gaie" (43), is full of life and movement, and most successful as a bit of colour. But in colour, even Professor Müller must give place to Gérôme, whose figure of "Botzaris" (33) is one of the most finished works of the great French artist, who can rise far above mere archaeological studies, and, in spite of his knowledge, throw life and feeling into his figures. Botzaris is represented seated in a sort of alcove lined with blue and white Persian tiles. He is dressed in a superb red velvet robe covered with embroidery: he looks at once a born leader of men, and one who was not free from human vanities and weaknesses. Karl Heffner is represented by a number of Italian scenes of various sizes, the most important being a "Moonlight View of Tivoli" (21), in which he has attempted a somewhat fresh line, and the "Bay of Baia" (115), where his special talents show to greater advantage in the dreary, dreamy expanse of sky and water. Some of his smaller sketches, like "The Boboli Gardens" (38), "Fiesole" (40), "Storm and Sunshine" (66), and "The Dunes near Calais" (75) are, especially charming, and should not on account of their size be overlooked. Amongst the other artists whose works deserve attention are M. Laugée, whose "Pauvre Aveugle" (107) is full of feeling; M. D. Skutezki's "Mia Figlia, Signor" (37), a wily old man introducing his new model to the artist; C. Mayr-Graz's "Dolly's Bath" (27); E. De Blaas' "In His Element" (89), a boy busy with an orange; Chevillard's "Le Curé Dort" (120); and the "Rival Claimants" (121), by C. Seiler, which will bear comparison with Meissonier's "Stirrup Cup" (10), painted in 1865, which one is glad to welcome back.

## MR. McLEAN'S GALLERY.

At Mr. J. McLean's Gallery (7, Haymarket) the centre of attraction must be Mr. Millais' "Perfect Bliss" (43), which, if we mistake not, will take rank among his most successful and popular works. Mr. Millais has, on this occasion, got away from silks and satins and over-dressed children, as he has managed to keep clear of the conventional outcast. The little child with wide-open eyes seated beside the strawberry bed, is full of reality, although the picture itself is one of almost ideal poetry. The little damsel is simply dressed in a yellowish frock with a blue sash and a hat to match. She has evidently been given permission to plunder the strawberry plants, and her little hands have been well engaged. Suddenly, her attention has been attracted by the coquettings of two yellow butterflies, who are pursuing one another. The eagerness of her little face, with its large eyes, its soft baby-mouth, and pink transparent flesh, must appeal to every one; whilst the care bestowed upon the garden and the foliage encourages us to hope that Mr. Millais now recognises where his real strength lies, and that he will make himself as truly the exponent of childhood in the nineteenth century as Reynolds was of that of the eighteenth. It is impossible to look at such a picture as "Perfect Bliss," or to its companion picture, "The Orphans," of which we shall have occasion to speak when it is publicly exhibited, without admitting that Mr. Millais occupies a pedestal in the school of painting which has been vacant for nearly a century. Of the other works in Mr. McLean's Gallery, Mr. Vicat Cole's "Backwater near Medmenham" (25) is as fine a bit of English river scenery as we have seen for a long time—full of air and sunshine; and it contrasts favourably with Mr. Leader's "Evening Hour" (62), of which the effect seems strained. In landscapes, however, we note with pleasure a new name—that of Mr. E. H. Holder, whose two bits of "Welsh Scenery" (63, 64) are very far above the average. Mr. Albert Moore sends two heads, "Portia" (9) and "The Blonde" (2), painted with far greater strength and decision than he has accustomed us to look for in his work. Mr. G. Laugée is seen here even to greater advantage than at Mr. Wallis's Gallery, with his two scenes of outdoor peasant life, "Dinner in the Field" (22) and "Resting" (50), in both of which the influence of François Millet as of Bastien-Lepage may be traced. Signor Milesi's "Tasting the New Vintage" (53) is a capital specimen of modern Italian painting, of which there are numerous other

exponents in this exhibition. Mention should also be made of Mr. Peter Graham's "Rock-Bound Shore" (6), F. Royhet's "Amateur" (26), Julien Dupré's "German Milkmaid" (80), and J. Israels' "Consolation" (60).

We very much doubt whether Hans Makart's picture of "Summer," now on view at Herr W. Dierken's Gallery (157, New Bond-street), will add much to the artist's fame in this country. As a splendid piece of colouring, in which the effort to combine Titian and Veronese is scarcely disguised, this last great work of a genius prematurely cut off, will always have an interest. But there is something so forced and unnatural in the subject and its treatment that we can scarcely fancy the work is likely to become popular. A group of ladies have been bathing in a retired spot, and are reclining about in various attitudes, and with scant clothing. One group is—similarly attired—absorbed in a game of chess. Another lady is just preparing to enter the bath; whilst the principal figure is that of one who is reclining on a couch in a decidedly graceful attitude. There is no question as to the beauty of much of the drawing and the richness of the colouring; but, beyond these Academic qualities, it is difficult to find anything in the picture to arouse interest. It is neither mythical, allegorical, nor realistic; and it leaves one in amazement that so much undoubted talent should have been bestowed upon a work which can commend itself to so very limited a public.

Among the works exhibited in the adjoining galleries are those of many foreign artists, chiefly of the Düsseldorf school, whose names even are but little, if at all, known in this country. M. G. Nicolet is one who exhibits great versatility and no small promise, as displayed in such works as "La Prière" (73), a Dutch nun; "Tired Out" (49), a boy asleep on the sandy dunes; and "Haidée" (53), a study.

In a recent notice of the Hanover Gallery, we alluded to the doubts which so frequently arose with reference to French works exhibited in this country. Nothing was further from our intention than to suggest that Messrs. Hollender and Cremetti, who, although newcomers to London, have held a hundred exhibitions in the provinces, would offer to the public works which they did not believe to be genuine. Our remark was in truth suggested by a statement recently made by M. Ch. Pillet, the well-known *commissaire-priseur* of the Hôtel Drouot, who publicly commented on the surprising fecundity of certain French artists after their death. The testimony—to be taken for what it was worth—which we bore to the works brought together by Messrs. Hollender and Cremetti would, we hoped, be regarded as evidence of our belief that they had skilfully avoided the perils to which even the most careful experts are at times exposed. In any case, we can only express our regret if our remarks should have given annoyance where none was intended.

Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods concluded the sale of the works of art from the Bohn collection last Saturday. The amount obtained for the nine days' sale was £19,220. On Monday and Tuesday Messrs. Christie disposed of the Library, containing works of reference and of art.

Last Saturday, at St. Jude's Schools, Commercial-street, Mr. North Buxton, the chairman of the London School Board, opened a Fine-Art Exhibition, in the presence of a large number of ladies and gentlemen. The exhibition is the fifth of a series that have been promoted by the Rev. Mr. Barnett, and contains about 250 pictures, which have been kindly lent by the owners. The admission to the exhibition is free.

## THE EASTER MANŒUVRES OF VOLUNTEERS.

The advance upon Brighton by nine marching columns, amounting in the aggregate to nearly 6000 men, and covering a frontage of upwards of twelve miles, taken in conjunction with the field-day of Monday, in which 20,000 men will take part, is expected to be the most important and interesting series of operations yet attempted. The general idea on which the operations of Good Friday and Saturday are based is that an invading force is reported to be endeavouring to effect a landing in the neighbourhood of Newhaven, and that the marching columns constitute the advanced guard of an army corps dispatched to oppose it. This advanced guard, under Colonel H. F. Davies, Grenadier Guards, leaves London on Good Friday morning; the 1st Brigade, under Colonel G. Moncrieff, Scots Guards, detraining at West Hoathly and Forest Row, and the 2nd Brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Helsham Jones, at Crawley, Three Bridges, Rowfant, and Grange-road. After a short halt the entire force will advance shortly after ten o'clock by parallel routes in a southerly direction, and with all the precautions observed on a march through country occupied by a hostile force. Saturday's advance will be of an extremely interesting character, and will assume, as far as possible, the aspect of a march effected in actual warfare from the circumstance that it will be opposed by a force estimated at about 4000 men. This force will advance from Brighton in the morning, but the probable spot at which they will come in contact with it will only be disclosed to the commanders of the military columns by sealed orders, not to be opened till their men are in readiness to start. The most likely scene of the main engagement will be somewhat to the north-east of Stammer, on the down land, at about five miles or so from Brighton. On Monday morning the men already at Brighton will rendezvous at the points usually selected for this purpose, and, being joined by the detachments arriving by train from London, will move off the parade-ground by about half-past nine o'clock. At the sham-fight the attacking force, commanded by Major-General R. White, C.B., will number about 12,000, with fourteen guns, furnished by the Hon. Artillery Company and the 1st Sussex Artillery Volunteers. The defending force, under Major-General the Hon. R. Monck, will number some 6300, with sixteen guns of the 2nd and 3rd Middlesex Artillery Volunteers. The Middlesex Yeomanry and the Light Cavalry of the Hon. Artillery Company will also take part in the day's proceedings.

The marching column to Dover will consist of the 3rd City of London Rifle Volunteers, under Colonel Laurie, together with a strong detachment of the 1st Volunteer Brigade South Staffordshire Regiment. The column will proceed from London by rail on Good Friday morning to Faversham, and will thence advance to Canterbury, picking up several local contingents by the way, and being exercised en route in scouting and similar duties. After passing the night in barracks at Canterbury, they will make their way to Dover on the following day, and take part in the field-day arranged for Easter Monday. The major portion of the Volunteer corps engaged will be supplied by the metropolis. Of these, one brigade of artillery and three battalions of infantry will leave London on Thursday for the forts at Dover and the camp at Shorncliffe for garrison duty. The number of Volunteers engaged will be about 7000.

At Portsmouth a brigade of artillery from Lancashire and a battalion of infantry, 500 strong, supplied by the 2nd London Rifle Volunteers, will be engaged in the performance of garrison duty; and at Aldershot two metropolitan battalions will take part in the manœuvres to be effected by the regular troops.

## PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Monday, March 30.

The past week has been remarkable for the proofs of frivolity which the Parisians and their journalists have given, both in the subjects which have apparently interested them and in their manner of commenting upon them. The chief topic was the conduct of Mlle. Van Zandt and of the manager of the Opéra Comique, conduct which gave rise to disgraceful scenes in and outside the theatre, and to the semblance of riots in which the students of the Latin Quarter played a conspicuous rôle. These ridiculous events have ended in the resignation of Mlle. Van Zandt, who, it is to be presumed, will not venture, at least for some years, to present herself before a Parisian audience. Meanwhile, there were new plays being brought out at the theatres; the "Concours Hippique" was attracting the *monde* and the *demi-monde* to a grand show of toilettes and luxury at the Palais de l'Industrie; as usual, the vaudevillists, who fulfil the rôle of Parliamentary reporters, were turning the proceedings of the Legislature into ridicule; in short, Paris was as thoughtless and frivolous as ever, and heedless of the fact that all Europe, except France, had its head out of the window wondering what would come next in that mighty perturbation of nations in which the far-seeing pessimists discern the beginning of the uprising which will end in the dusky and yellow races in their turn dominating the white.

On Sunday afternoon all Paris was abroad to enjoy the sunshine. Thousands were assembled on the race-course of Auteuil, when, about four o'clock, newspaper boys arrived hoarsely crying: "General Négrier wounded! Retreat of the French troops! Invasion of Tonquin by the Chinese!" Following, as it did, immediately on the debate in the Chamber on Saturday, this news produced a formidable impression, and no more attention was paid to the races. During the evening considerable excitement prevailed on the boulevards, and in all quarters of the city the journals were read and commented upon. It would be an exaggeration to say that the excitement was intense. But the news of the retreat, and the pressing demand of General Briere de l'Isle for reinforcements—the rumour, too, that General Négrier was not merely wounded, but dead—seemed to wake up the Parisians for the first time to the tremendous gravity of the situation. Naturally, the first movement was to blame M. Ferry and the Government. Ferry, it was said, was hiding the truth and falsifying despatches, as M. Clémenceau had accused him of doing in the Chamber on Saturday. Ferry had violated the Constitution, and deceived everybody. The Ministry ought to be impeached. Now, the only thing to do was to send at once reinforcements—50,000 to march on Pekin. Now that we are in the mire, we must get out of it with honour. At the Chateau d'Eau Theatre, where a piece called "Les Français au Tonkin" is being played, the whole house rose and recalled the actors five times at the passage where it is said, over the corpse of the Commander Rivière, "Even at a distance of five thousand leagues, France has her eyes upon you. She honours you, and will avenge you."

What will be the effect of public opinion and of these grave incidents upon the Government? This (Monday) morning all sorts of plans of action were discussed amongst the deputies, in anticipation of a most important meeting of the Parliament this afternoon. Finally, the Extreme Left decided to propose the impeachment of the Ministry. At the opening of the sitting M. Ferry read a statement as to events in China and the measures taken to meet them, and concluded by demanding a credit of 200 millions, adding that this vote would not be considered as one of confidence. Thereupon, M. Clémenceau said that no Republican regarded M. Ferry any longer as a Minister, but as a man on trial, an *accusé*. In the name of the Extreme Left, he laid on the table the order of the day for impeachment, and a demand of interpellation. M. Rebot then spoke, and proposed another order of the day. M. Ferry demanded priority for the vote of the credits. This was refused by 308 against 161, and the Ministry then retired to hand in its resignation to M. Grevy. It is alleged that M. De Freycinet, requested by the President of the Republic to take office as Prime Minister, has asked for twenty-four hours' reflection before accepting or refusing M. Grevy's offer. The Corps Législatif was surrounded by a large and anxious crowd, and on the boulevards the newspaper kiosques are being besieged by people greedy for news.

Prince Orloff died at Fontainebleau, after a long illness, yesterday afternoon, at the age of fifty-eight, after acting as Minister Plenipotentiary at Brussels from 1859 onwards. He was appointed Russian Ambassador at London in 1870, and at Paris in 1873. He remained Ambassador here until 1883, when he was nominated Ambassador at Berlin.

T. C.

The Second Dutch Chamber has granted a subvention of 25,000 guilders to the Antwerp Exhibition.

The Crown Prince and Princess of Austria arrived at Vienna last Saturday evening, on their return from Montenegro.—The second reading of the bill for the reform of the Hungarian Upper House came to an end yesterday week, all the proposals of the committee being adopted. The old "Table of Magnates" has now ceased to exist. Twenty-one dukes, two hundred and forty-two counts, and two hundred and eighty-three baronets will be excluded, because they pay less than three thousand guildens taxes yearly. The new "House of Estates" will be composed of seven dukes, one hundred and sixty-two counts, thirty-six baronets, twenty-six Roman and Greek Catholic and nine Protestant bishops, thirty peers, who will be nominated by the Crown for life, and fifty representatives of those peers who have forfeited their seats.

The Danish Rigsdag has elected a committee of fifteen members from each House to arrange respecting the Budget.

A telegram from Ottawa states that the Dominion Government is determined to crush the rebellion among the half-breeds, and has ordered 1100 men from Quebec and Toronto to the North-West. Louis Riel has relinquished the command of the rebels.

The extraordinary Session of the New South Wales Parliament, convoked for the purpose of voting the funds required for the dispatch of the contingent to the Sudan, has been closed, and Parliament is prorogued. Although the minority in the Legislative Assembly voted for the amendment on the address, when the grant of the necessary money and the indemnity asked for by the Government were put to the vote no division was taken, the whole House supporting the Government.—The sculling-match between Haulan and Beach for one thousand pounds took place at Sydney on Saturday, and resulted in the victory of Beach by six lengths.—It is announced from Melbourne that the Governor has prohibited foreign ships from entering Port Phillip during the night, and that his order will be enforced by the ships of war there stationed.—The match between Shaw's English cricket team and a representative Australian Eleven composed of picked men from the different colonies was concluded on the 25th ult. The Englishmen won by an innings, with ninety-seven runs to spare.



T H E A F G H A N Q U E S T I O N .



RAWUL PINDI, THE MEETING-PLACE OF THE VICEROY OF INDIA AND THE AMEER OF AFGHANISTAN.

FROM A SKETCH BY COLONEL H. B. CROFTON.

CONFERENCE AT RAWUL PINDI.

The important meeting between Lord Dufferin, the Viceroy of India, and Abdurrahman Khan, Ameer of Cabul and ruler of Afghanistan, has taken place this week at Rawul Pindi, a well-known British military station in the Punjab, the administrative head-quarters of a large district between the Indus and the Jhelum rivers. The town of Rawul Pindi, which has nearly thirty thousand inhabitants, is situated on the railway from Lahore to Peshawar; to the north-east are the Murree

hills, where is the sanitarium and summer retreat of English Punjab officials; to the north-west is Hassan Abdul, where in 1873 a camp of exercise for twenty thousand troops was formed under Lord Napier of Magdala, then Commander-in-Chief in India. We are indebted to Colonel H. B. Crofton, of the Bengal Staff Corps, who was six years Deputy Commissioner of the Rawul Pindi district, for several good water-colour sketches of these places as they were in 1873, and of the camp then assembled at Hassan Abdul. The sketch we have engraved presents a general view of Rawul Pindi, with part of

the ground now occupied by the grand encampment, and with the hills in the distance. The Viceroy's camp, including the large Durrani tent, with the tents of his escort, is on the race-course, west of the military cantonments; it is well laid out with two broad roads, along which the tents are ranged, and between which is a space of green turf, with fountains and plants adorning the scene; at night it is lighted up with gas and coloured lamps. To the south of this, on the opposite side of the Peshawar road, are encamped the Royal Horse Artillery, the 9th Lancers, the Seaforth Highlanders,

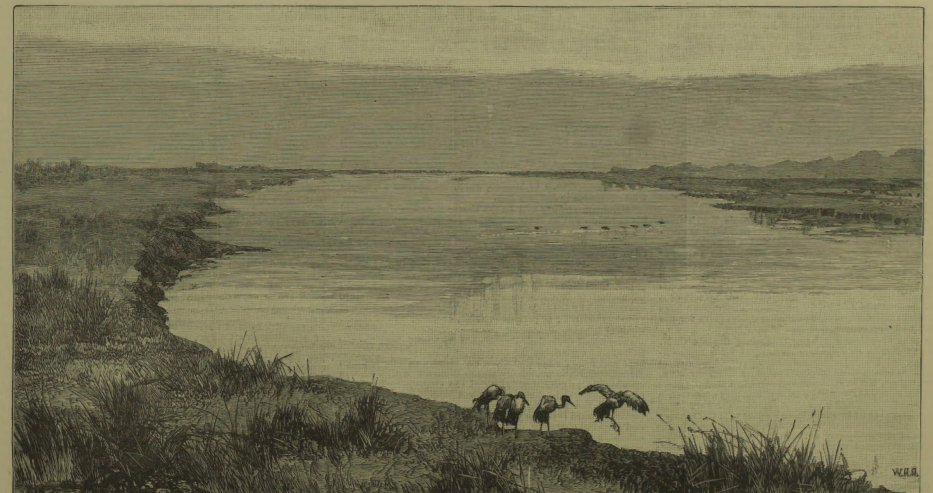
the 1st Bengal Infantry, and the Punjab Guides. To the east is the camp of Sir Charles Alcock, Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab; while the Civil Service camps on the infantry parade-ground in the middle of the cantonments. A house, richly furnished, near the park to the south-east, has been allotted for the lodging of the Ameer, with a splendid Durbar tent, which was lent by the Maharajah of Cashmere, on the lawn, for the Ameer to use in receiving ceremonial visits. The Punjab Native Chiefs have a separate camp on the north side of the town. The troops of the Rifle Brigade, and the 4th and

5th Ghorkas, are encamped on the Khanna plain, two miles east of the cantonments. Lord Dufferin arrived by railway at Rawul Pindi on Friday week, in the evening, and was met by Sir Charles Alcock, General Sir Donald Stewart, Commander-in-Chief in India; General Sir Frederick Roberts, Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army; and General Hardinge, Bombay Commander-in-Chief, with the Civil Service officials of the district, the municipal authorities of the town, and the Punjab Chiefs. An address was presented by the municipality, to which the

Viceroy replied. He next day received and returned the visits of the native chiefs, and held a general Levée. The Ameer of Afghanistan was expected to arrive at Rawul Pindi, accompanied by a military escort of two thousand men, cavalry, artillery, and infantry, with which he has travelled from Cabul through the Khyber Pass. He was met last week, at the frontier line west of Landi Kotal, by Colonel Watfield, the Commissioner of Peshawar, with an escort of the 1st Bengal Cavalry; on Sunday his Highness was at Jemrud, on the Indian side of the Khyber Pass, where he was received by



THE OXUS AT KHAMI-I-AB, LOOKING EAST, NEAR KHOJA-SALEH.  
FROM A SKETCH BY CAPTAIN PEACOCKE, R.E.



THE OXUS AT KHAMI-I-AB, LOOKING WEST, NEAR KHOJA-SALEH.  
FROM A SKETCH BY CAPTAIN PEACOCKE, R.E.



General T. Gordon, on behalf of the Viceroy, and was saluted with Royal honours by the artillery and the 12th Bengal Cavalry regiment. The Ameer went on through Peshawar. Great war preparations are being made in India. A conference between the Viceroy and Commander-in-Chief it was resolved to send 25,000 men to the Bolan Pass, under General Roberts, to be subsequently supported by another force of the same strength, advancing from Rawul Pindi. A reserve force of 10,000 men will be placed under the Duke of Connaught's command, and 15,000 soldiers are to be drawn from England as reinforcements, should the Anglo-Russian negotiations on the Afghan boundary question fall through. Sir Donald Stewart will take command of the army at Quetta. It is stated that 60,000 troops have already been equipped for active service. Lord Dufferin, on his way to Rawul Pindi, was met by the Maharajahs Scindia and Holkar, who formally placed their armies at the disposal of the Indian military authorities in the event of a war with Russia.

His Highness the Ameer Abdurrahman Khan, whose Portrait, from a photograph by Messrs. Bourne and Shepherd, of India, appears on our front page, was born in 1830, the eldest son of Afzal Khan, and is thus a grand-son of Dost Mohammed, who ruled Afghanistan till his death, in 1863, and nephew to the late Shere Ali, who was deposed and expelled by the British invasion of 1879, and who died soon afterwards in exile. Afzal Khan was Dost Mohammed's eldest son, but was Governor of Balkh, in Afghan Turkestan, when his father died, and Shere Ali had supplanted him in his absence, persuading old Dost Mohammed to nominate him, instead of Afzal, heir to the throne of Cabul. The disinherited elder brother, joined by a third brother, Azim Khan, engaged in a revolt against Shere Ali, and a civil war ensued during four years, in which Abdurrahman, a young man of great energy and ability, played a leading part, winning several battles at Sheikhabad, Khelat-i-Ghilzai, and other places, but was finally defeated by his cousin Yakoub Khan, son of Shere Ali. The Government of British India, under Lord Lawrence and Lord Mayo, preserved a strict neutrality in this dynastic family quarrel, but at last recognised Shere Ali as reigning Sovereign, when he had gained the victory over his brother. Abdurrahman, who had married a daughter of the Turkish Ameer of Bokhara, took refuge in those countries north of Afghanistan, beyond the Oxus, which had then not yet been subjected to Russian control. He was pursued, however, by the persecuting spite of Shere Ali and Yakoub, who had seized his mother, wife, and sister, and detained them many years prisoners at Candahar, and who compelled the Ameer of Bokhara to deny him an abode in that State. Abdurrahman was fain to put himself under the protection of the Russians, then gradually advancing their conquests in Turkestan, and was received by General Kaufmann, who procured him, in his poverty, a Russian pension of 25,000 roubles a year, and afterwards permitted him to reside at Samarcand. He was visited, while in exile, by the American traveller, Mr. Schuyler, who formed a high opinion of his character and intelligence; and he seems to have always been a man of industry in public business, working some hours daily with his secretaries, and attending punctually to all details of administration. His face, manners, and conversation are described as very pleasant, frank, and dignified; and Sir Lepel Griffin, who was Political Agent of the British Government at Cabul in 1880, after the Afghan War, found no difficulty in coming to a good understanding with Abdurrahman. It will be recollected that, when Shere Ali was deposed, his son Yakoub was allowed by the Treaty of Gundamuk to succeed him, upon conditions of peace by which a British Resident, the unfortunate Sir Louis Cavagnari, was to have a privileged and authoritative position at Cabul. An insurrection broke out among the Afghan troops in that city, who came from Herat, and who are supposed to have been instigated by Ayoub Khan, the younger brother of Yakoub, then and long before ruling at Herat as deputy of the Cabul Government. Cavagnari and the other English officers at the Residency, with the Indian soldiers of their escort, were barbarously massacred; and the war began again in 1880: Yakoub Khan voluntarily abdicated, and became a pensioner of the British Government; Cabul and Candahar were occupied for some time by British troops, while Ayoub Khan led an army of twelve thousand men from Herat, defeating the brigade of General Burrows at Maiwand, or Khushk-i-Nakhud, on July 27, and laid siege to Candahar, but was finally defeated by Sir Frederick Roberts, on Sept. 1, fled to the west, and is now an exile in Persia, where he may not be amenable to Russian intrigue. In the meantime, Abdurrahman Khan, who has certainly as just a claim, by birth, to the throne of Dost Mohammed as any son of Shere Ali could have had, was formally chosen by the leading men of Cabul, in July, 1880, for their new Ameer, and has been very substantially supported by the British Government of India, under Lord Ripon, receiving from it a regular subsidy of £160,000 a year, with large gifts of artillery, rifles, and ammunition to improve his military force. No fault whatever has yet been found with him in his dealings with the British Government; and it is to be hoped that nothing will happen to impair the useful alliance between India and the ruler of Afghanistan. The restoration of Candahar to his hereditary dominion, after the last war, though it was not approved by some English politicians, was a signal pledge of the honesty and good faith with which England is disposed to behave to the native Principalities of Asia, with which she desires to live at peace, and to afford them protection at need so long as they deserve it.

The Ameer got to Rawul Pindi on Tuesday morning. On Monday evening, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught arrived there.

In a case referred to the Court of Queen's Bench from Yorkshire, Justices Mathew and Smith have decided that crayfish are "fish" within the meaning of the Act of Parliament.

A Royal Proclamation declares the present to be a time of great emergency, and directs the Secretary for War to call out such men of the Reserve and of the Militia Reserve, from time to time, as he may think fit, also suspending throughout the Army the transfer of men to the Reserve.—As the result of a Council held at the Admiralty, important instructions have been sent to the dockyards, and further orders given for the chartering of transports.

The trial of the action brought against Captain C. N. Hoare and Mr. E. E. Lawrence for alleged false representations connected with the scheme for converting French Five per Cents by means of a loan, terminated on Thursday week. In summing up, Mr. Justice Stephen remarked that if people risked their money in speculative transactions they must reckon on the risk of not getting back their stakes. The Jury found that the plaintiffs had been induced to part with their money by false representations, which, however, were not made in the execution of any conspiracy between the defendants, and that a material statement relied on was not made by Lawrence independently of Captain Hoare. Mr. Justice Stephen the following morning gave judgment on these findings to the effect that the plaintiffs were entitled to the amounts claimed from the defendants, with interest; but execution was stayed for a week.

## THE AFGHAN BOUNDARY COMMISSION.

Our Special Artist, Mr. William Simpson, at the date of his latest communication to us, was still with the British Commission in the disputed territory north of Herat. He had leisure, during his sojourn of two months at Rala Murghab, to sketch both the scenery of that neighbourhood and the figures and habits of the native people, and of the immigrant Turkoman tribes. One of his Sketches is a view of the gorge at the head of the valley, in the mountain range called the Tirband-i-Turkestan, which means "The Girdle of Turkestan," for this range is the geographical limit of Turkestan on the south. "The range," he says, "we can see from our camp; but the particular view which is represented in my Sketch was taken from a point about six or seven miles from this place. There are the ruined mud walls of an old fort on the right bank of the river; at least, its name of Kala Khoja implies that it is a fort. The Murghab flows from the mountains through the gorge, which may be looked upon as the south end of the Murghab valley. Beyond the gorge there are, no doubt, valleys, but they will be very different from the flat alluvial valley leading from this down to Merv."

We are indebted to Captain Peacocke, R.E., one of the scientific officers of the Boundary Commission, sent on by Sir Peter Lumsden to Khoja-Saleh, on the Oxus, nearly two hundred miles east-north-east of the Murghab, for Sketches of the river at that place. The Oxus of the ancient Greeks, the Jihun of the Arabs and Turks, the Vak-Shu of the Indians, the Amoo-Darya of the modern Persians and of Russian geography, is a great river of antique and mysterious renown, vaguely remembered in the earliest traditions of infant nations of the Aryan race. Its banks may have been frequented by primeval progenitors of the most civilised nations of Europe; of the Greeks and Romans as well as the Germans or the English, the Franks, Gauls, Saxons, and Scandinavians, who appeared in Europe at the dawn of mediæval history; and of the Persians and genuine Hindoos, who created a different type of civilisation in Asia. This venerable stream rises somewhere in the great Pamir or upper table-land, north of the Hindoo Koosh, which divides the Chinese territory of Kashgar, and the Mongolian world of Eastern Asia, from Turkestan and Central Asia. It flows westward, forming the northern boundary of Badakshan, Kunduz, Balkh, Andkhui, with Shibbergan and Maimene, provinces still belonging to Afghanistan, as far as Khoja-Saleh, where it turns north-west, and ultimately falls into the Sea of Aral, now a Russian lake. But there is a belief, entertained by many physical geographers, that its former course was more directly westward, across the vast desert steppe of the Kara-Kum, and that it reached the Caspian Sea, near Krasnovodsk Bay. The Murghab and the Heri-Rud, which now lose their waters in the Desert, may then have been tributaries of the Oxus. The old dried-up beds of these rivers are still discoverable; and if there was once plenty of water in that region of Asia, there may have been a large settled population in pre-historic ages, a past world of Aryan nations, speaking language of which the roots are left in thousands of words of our common speech at this day. Such is the interest attached to the Oxus and the adjacent countries in the view of archæologists and philologists; but its glory, like that of the Euphrates, has long since departed, and it presents, in general, scenes of melancholy desolation. It is naturally a very large river, bringing down, from the Ak-Su mountains to the plains, nearly as great a volume of water as the Nile. It may originally have been greater; but much of its water, which has similar fertilising properties, is spent in numerous canals for irrigation like those of Khiva; and there is a general drying-up of all the rivers and seas of Central Asia, going on for many centuries past. Civilisation has likewise dried up, and the once fruitful and populous lands have become a desert, haunted by migratory tribes of robbers. At Khami-i-Ab, near Khoja-Saleh, where Captain Peacocke took his couple of Views, one looking west and the other looking east, the river is six or seven hundred yards wide. The neighbouring mountain, which in January was capped with snow, is called the Koh-i-Tan—the lower sandhills, to the east, are the Ak-Kum. There is a patch of cultivation, and willow-trees are growing, about Khami-i-Ab and Bosaga, favoured by the "Sheikh's Canal," which lies to the left hand in the View looking west or down the river. A solitary crane at the water's edge is the only living creature in that View; but the other Sketch introduces the figures of Captain Peacocke, lying on the ground with an astronomical instrument, taking the latitude, we suppose; his Hindoo servant, who is sitting near him; two "hakims" or doctors, from Andkhui and Ak-Cha respectively, with two Turkoman followers; and a British officer employed in the political business of the Commission. These are, we believe, the first pictures of that part of the Oxus ever drawn by an English pencil, and certainly the first engraved and published. If there should, unhappily, be war between Russia and Great Britain, a regular army, with all the military bustle of a grand campaign, might soon be encamping on those lonely river-banks in Central Asia, having been conveyed several thousand miles, over sea and land, to be employed in the old, old work of fighting for empire, which has been carried on since the time of Cain, and to which mankind, for their sins, are still addicted.

Sir William Jenner, K.C.B., M.D., was on Monday elected for the fifth time President of the Royal College of Physicians of London.

Sir Saul Samuel, K.C.M.G., Agent-General for New South Wales, has been informed by telegram of the arrival in Sydney of the steamer Gulf of Mexico, which sailed from Plymouth with emigrants in January last.

Mr. Justice Chitty will be the Easter Vacation Judge, and his Lordship will be in attendance at Judges' Chambers, Royal Courts of Justice, on Thursday, April 9, Friday, April 10, Saturday, April 11, and Monday, April 13. There will be no sittings in court during the Easter Vacation.

A general abstract of marriages, births, and deaths registered in England in 1884 has been issued as a Parliamentary paper. This shows that up to the middle of 1884 the estimated population of England was 27,132,449, against 25,974,439 enumerated by the Census of 1881. The number of deaths last year was 531,951; of persons married, 408,410; and of births, 908,584.

The Royal Commission appointed by her Majesty for the purpose of organising the Colonial and Indian Exhibition of next year met, for the first time, on Monday at Marlborough House, under the presidency of the Prince of Wales, who, in opening the proceedings, reminded the commissioners of the objects for which her Majesty had appointed them, and described the project, to the realisation of which he had looked forward for some years, as essentially one of a national and Imperial character, differing in this respect from former exhibitions, in which the elements of trade rivalry and profit largely predominated. His Royal Highness expressed a hope that this gathering might be the means not only of giving a stimulus to commercial interests and intercourse, but of strengthening that bond of union between her Majesty's subjects in all parts of the Empire the growth and manifestation of which are sincerely appreciated by all.

## WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The Scotch Confirmation, under seal of office of the Commissary Court of Elgin and Nairn, of the general disposition and deed of settlement, dated Aug. 14, 1884, of the Right Hon. Louisa, Dowager Countess of Seafield, who died at Grant Lodge, Elgin, on Sept. 2 last, granted to the Hon. Lewis Alexander Grant and Alexander Lewis Henry Grant, the executors nominate, was sealed in London on the 7th ult., the value of the personal estate in England, Scotland, and Ireland exceeding £8000.

The will (dated Nov. 25, 1884) of Lady Catherine Georgiana Barrington, late of Watton, Hertfordshire, who died on Jan. 18 last, at St. Leonard's-on-Sea, was proved on the 20th ult. by Russell Henry Barrington, the son, one of the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £7000. The testatrix leaves the cash at her banker's and her English and Indian Government Stocks to her husband, the Hon. and Rev. Lowther John Barrington, for life, and then to her three children; and the residue of her property to her husband, absolutely. The deceased was a daughter of Thomas, second Earl of Chichester.

The Scotch Confirmation, under the seal of office of the Commissary of the county of Edinburgh, of the disposition and settlement (dated May 17, 1883) of Sir Henry James Seton-Steuart, Bart., late of No. 9, Charlotte-square, Edinburgh, who died on Dec. 6 last, granted to Dame Elizabeth Seton-Steuart, the widow and executrix nominate, was sealed in London on the 10th ult., the value of the personal estate in England and Scotland amounting to over £16,000.

The will (dated Sept. 3, 1880), with six codicils (dated Sept. 3, 1880; May 14 and Aug. 3, 1881; Nov. 21, 1882; June 12, 1883; and Aug. 15, 1884), of Mr. Thomas Curtis, formerly of No. 74, Lombard-street, but late of Tle Hall, Berkhamstead, Herts, who died on Dec. 7 last, was proved on the 18th ult. by John Turtton Woolley, Beaumont William Lubbock, and Charles Constable Curtis, the great nephew, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £374,000. The testator bequeaths £10,000, upon trust, for his sister-in-law, Frances Blathwayt, for life; £10,000 upon the trusts of the will of his late great nephew, the Rev. Richard Folliott Scott; £5000 to his nephew, Constable Curtis; £4000 and certain shares to his said great nephew, Charles Constable Curtis; £6000 Consols, upon trust, to pay a stipend of £60 per annum to the clergyman of the Church of England in ministerial charge of the church at Whelpley Hill, Chesham, Oxfordshire, erected by him; a stipend of £60 per annum to the schoolmistress of the school at Whelpley Hill, also erected by him; and the remainder of the income to be applied in the repair and maintenance of the said church and school;—his plate, books, pictures, bronzes, statuary, and works of art to go as heirlooms and be enjoyed with his estates in Bucks and Herts; the remainder of his furniture and effects, farming stock, &c., to the person who shall succeed at his death to the said estates; and numerous bequests to his executors, friends, relatives, clerks, servants, and others. His real estate near Weybridge and elsewhere in the county of Surrey he leaves to his said sister-in-law, Frances Blathwayt, for life, and then to his late wife's nephew, Charles George Blathwayt; and his estates in Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire he settles on his great nephew, Charles Constable Curtis. All his real estate in the counties of Buckingham and Hertford, and the residue of his real estate, and also the residue of the personality, he settles on his nephew, Constable Curtis, for life, with remainder to his great nephew, Charles Constable Curtis, for life, with remainder to his first and other sons successively, according to their respective seniorities in tail male.

The will (dated May 8, 1884) of Francis James Gill, of Bank House, Tallowfield, Manchester, and senior partner in the firm of Gill and Hartley, 79, Cannon-street, Manchester, and Bury-lane, Culcheth, Lancashire, and 120, Wood-street, London, has been proved under £160,000 at the District Court, Manchester, by the executors, his brother, Robert Preston Gill, and his sons, Thomas Gill, John Whitcombe Gill, and Robert Hartley Gill.

The will (dated Aug. 24, 1884) of Mrs. Catherine Bonsfield, late of No. 44, Grosvenor-place, who died on Aug. 24 last, at Coniston, Lancashire, was proved on the 14th ult. by Richard Fell Steble and Alexander Milne, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £79,000. The testatrix leaves Holywath and all her property at Church Coniston, in the county of Lancaster, to James William Henry Barratt and Margaret, his wife, and the survivor of them, absolutely; £50,000 to the said Richard Fell Steble; £20,000 to Mrs. Metcalf, of Trizett; £10,000 each to Salome Bythia Barratt and Alexander John Barratt; and other legacies. The residue of her property she gives to the said Richard Fell Steble.

The will (dated April 1, 1880) of Mr. Nathaniel James Powell, late of Devonshire House, Beckenham, who died on Jan 1 last, was proved on the 14th ult. by William James Smellie, Nathaniel Porter, and Ernest Pwettress, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £48,000. The testator leaves the cash in the house, all his furniture, plate, pictures, effects, horses, carriages, and cattle, £500, and an annuity of £1000 for life, to his wife, Mrs. Susannah Powell; she is also to have the option of using his residence or a further annuity of £100 for life; and he bequeaths £500 to the Asylum for Fatherless Children, Reedham;—£250 each to the Orphan Working School, Haverstock-hill, and the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney;—£200 each to the Asylum for Idiots, Earlswood; the London Missionary Society, the London City Mission, the London Congregational Chapel Building Society, the Church Aid and Home Missionary Society, and the London Congregational Union;—£100 each to the Aged Pilgrims' Friend Society; the Milton Mount College, near Gravesend; Hackney College, Well-street, Hackney; New College, Hampstead; the London Orphan Asylum, Watford; the Religious Tract Society, the Governesses' Benevolent Institution, the Sunday School Union, Old Bailey; the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Evangelical Continental Society, the Irish Evangelical Society, the Kent County Congregational Society, the London Hospital, Whitechapel-road; the London Hospital, Victoria Park; the Eastern Dispensary, Leman-street; the Protestant Blind Pension Society, the Congregational School, Lewisham, for the education of the sons of Ministers; and the Countess of Huntingdon's College, Cheshunt;—an annuity of £200 during the life of his wife to his brother, William Thomas; and very numerous and considerable other legacies. At his wife's death he bequeaths many further legacies, some of large amount; and the ultimate residue is divided into fourteenth parts, among various persons, including his said brother and his wife and daughter.

The will (dated June 6, 1884) of Mr. Henry Freeman George Coleman, late of Oakley House, Alpha-road, St. John's-wood, who died on Dec. 3 last, was proved on the 9th ult. by George William Coleman, the brother, and Richard Seddon Toller, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £31,000. The testator leaves his household furniture and effects to his wife, Mrs. Charlotte Tilke Coleman, and the residue of his real and personal estate, upon trust, for her, for life, and then for his said brother.



## THE SILENT MEMBER.

"Victoria Regina." The Royal Message, thus headed, communicated suddenly to Parliament on the 26th of March, took the wind out of the sails of the debate on the Egyptian Convention. It was with almost startling abruptness that the Earl of Kimberley, in the Upper House, exclaiming, "A message from the Queen," rose from the Ministerial bench, and, quickly walking to the woolsack, handed the paper to the Lord Chancellor. There was a fair gathering of Peers; and all eyes were directed to Lord Selborne as he quietly read the momentous message intimating the necessity of calling out the Reserves and the Militia to meet "a case of great emergency." The Marquis of Salisbury, as Leader of the Opposition, naturally rose to inquire whether this grave step had been decided upon in consequence of intelligence of an alarming character from the Afghan frontier. But Lord Kimberley adopted the unusual course of crossing the floor of the House to the front Opposition bench in order to whisper his reply in the ear of the noble Marquis—an answer presumably to the effect that reticence was for the moment expedient. In a well-nigh inaudible voice Lord Selborne then—perhaps, to stigmatise by a side wind those that had rendered the Queen's message necessary—explained the principle of the new Lunacy Laws Amendment Bill, which was read a first time, and which is intended to remedy some of those evils at present existing in the administration of a merciful law singularly liable to abuse. What had been a subdued and hushed sitting, so to speak, bade fair to have an animated ending. But it was made manifest to Lord Greville that it would be inadvisable to persist in his inquiry concerning the cause of the surprise of General McNeill's zerebas, near Souakim, on the 22nd of March, and the matter dropped. None the less, the attack in question, with such important details as the alleged jamming of the Gardner guns, the trouble with the Boxer cartridge, and the dispatch of empty water-bottles to the zerebas, cannot have failed to engage the serious attention of the Horse Guards and War Office authorities.

"No flinching!" Lord Granville the next day was able to assure the Marquis of Salisbury that there would be "no flinching" on the part of the Government with regard to the question in dispute between Russia and England. Referring to Penjdeh, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs declared that the debateable ground had been occupied by the Afghans before the arrival of General Lumsden. Their Lordships met for a short time on Saturday last, when her Majesty signified by Royal Commission her consent to a cluster of measures. Thereafter, the House of Lords adjourned for the Easter Recess.

Before the Commons rose for the holidays, the Government were fortunately able to foreshadow a more hopeful state of things with respect to the Afghan difficulty. The bold front assumed by the Ministry towards Russia, and the patriotic support offered by the Opposition and the House generally, indisputably helped to bring the impulsive spirits of St. Petersburg to reason. Last week the Message from her Majesty calling out the Reserves and the Militia had been sonorous read by the Speaker; the Prime Minister had returned replies regarding the respective positions of the Russian and Afghan forces on the frontier of Turkestan; and considerable tension existed. Monday brought good news. The Marquis of Hartington had the satisfaction of announcing that "the latest intelligence from St. Petersburg is of such a nature as to strengthen our hope of arriving at a satisfactory conclusion (Cheers). As to the military preparations respecting which the hon. member for Kirkcaldy asks, I can say no more than that, as the House is aware, we have entered into certain engagements on certain conditions towards the Amir of Afghanistan; but, looking to the distance which separates our military force from the region to which our engagements relate, we are of opinion that it is desirable to make some preparations to enable us to fulfil those engagements if occasion should arise."

The cheers that greeted the statement of the Secretary for War had hardly died away when Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice, replying to Mr. E. Stanhope, imparted an additionally cheerful tone to matters by holding out hopes that the Russian Government contemplated "an early meeting of the Commission, and looks forward to such meeting as likely to allay the excitement on both sides." This long-delayed meeting, however, would be more exactly described as "better late than never," for it can scarcely be considered "early" now.

The resolution of Mr. T. Bruce condemning in unqualified terms the Egyptian Financial Agreement missed fire, because the Opposition did not formulate any distinct alternative policy. Mr. Gladstone's opening statement on March 26, although clear as a piece of exposition, was characterised by as languid a grasp of the Egyptian Difficulty as ever. The terms of the Premier's motion were:—

"That her Majesty be authorised to guarantee the payment of an annuity of £415,000 sterling for the purpose of a loan to be raised by the Government of Egypt, in pursuance of the Convention signed at London on March 18, 1875, between her Majesty and the Governments of Austria-Hungary, France, Germany, Italy, and Russia, and the authority of Turkey; and that provision be made out of the Consolidated Fund to fulfil the guarantee of her Majesty in respect of such annuity."

But no gleam of hope was given by his speech that this Convention would be anything but a temporary tiding over the financial embarrassments which threatened Egypt with bankruptcy. Nor did Mr. Bruce's amendment promise any better solution. Whilst Mr. Gladstone's was perhaps the most impolitic of the many impolitic addresses he has been called upon to deliver since the bombardment of Alexandria, neither Sir Stafford Northcote nor Mr. Chamberlain, neither Sir Michael Hicks-Beach nor Mr. Childers could present to the House any more statesman-like plan. Hence, probably, the goodly majority the Government secured on the second night of the debate. Mr. Bruce's condemnatory amendment was negatived by a majority of 48—294 against 246 votes—and Mr. Gladstone's motion was then agreed to. We are, accordingly, on the eve of another phase of the Egyptian Difficulty, which can barely be worse, however, than the present phase.

Ere the Commons separated on Tuesday, there was a brief but interesting discussion on the condition of the Ladies' Gallery. Mr. Sydney Buxton's gallant endeavour to secure an improvement in the at present very imperfect accommodation had a damper thrown upon it by Mr. Herbert Gladstone and Mr. Gibson, and even by Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, who has such rational views with respect to the arrangement of the House generally that he might well have been expected to have agreed with the motion. But there was a majority of 56 against Mr. Buxton, whose fair clients will have to wait yet "a little longer."

Mr. Henry Irving will conclude his American engagement at New York this week. He will be entertained at a farewell dinner, on April 6, at Delmonico's, Mr. William M. Evarts being in the chair. Mr. Irving leaves on the 7th.

At a meeting of the subscribers of the York and Ainsty Hunt, held at Harker's Hotel, York, last Saturday, under the presidency of Lord Wenlock, Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. York, of Hutton Hall, was appointed master of the hounds, in the place of Captain Brocklehurst, resigned.

## CITY ECHOES.

Tuesday Evening, March 31.

In the absence of any indication that permanent terms can be made with Russia in regard to the Afghan frontier, and in the knowledge that the British Government is rapidly preparing for war, all business has for a week past been increasingly under the influence of the feeling that war must be counted as almost probable. And at the time of writing the Ministerial crisis in France has added to the sensitiveness of the European Bourses. Most home and foreign Government securities have further declined. Russian are still being taken for German account, though upon borrowed money. In Berlin war is not thought probable, and hence this dangerous speculation. If war does not result, large profits will be made by many; but in the other event, there will be a crash indeed. But, apart from this baffling Government securities, trade generally is being seriously interfered with. War would mean not only great interruption to nearly every branch of business, but involve such an outlay of money as to render necessary a great addition to taxation. Income-tax payers would probably have their special burdens increased; but it is taken for granted that there must be a resort to increased import duties in order to distribute the burden over the widest area. Tea is regarded as a convenient commodity for such a purpose, and there has in consequence been considerable excitement in that market, stock being taken out of bond in advance of requirements to make sure of the present basis of duty. The preparations of our Government have given an impulse to trade in some directions. The purchases of tinned meats are understood to have quite cleared the American market of supplies; and with us the shipping interests have been affected by the purchase or hire of many of the largest and best ocean-going steamers, while the intention to call out the Reserve affects the labour market in many parts of the country. But apart from these special causes for animation, there is nothing favourable to say of any class of business.

The Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railway Company have just announced a materially reduced dividend for the second half of last year, the rate being 3 per cent per annum, compared with 7 per cent per annum for several previous half-years. The New York Central and Hudson River Company, which for many years paid 8 per cent per annum, lowered their rate in October last to 6, and again the last month to 4. Still later, the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway Company, which formerly paid 8 per cent per annum and latterly 6, are to "pass" the dividend due in May.

At the meeting of the East and West India Dock Company, held for the purpose of raising new capital in the form of debenture stock, the chairman, in the course of his remarks, rightly deprecated the policy of issuing stock below market value to shareholders. He stated that stock had on a former occasion been rateably issued to existing holders, and a material fall in the market value had resulted through the holders being in haste to sell, in order to take their profit. The shareholders thus gained very little, and the company of course was deprived of the money it would have otherwise obtained had the stock been issued at the proper value.

For the year 1884 the directors of the South Australian Land Mortgage and Agency Company, Limited, are to pay 12½ per cent. The company was established in 1880, and it has from the first paid 10 per cent. There is a reserve of £45,000. The subscribed capital is £2,000,000, £200,000 being paid up, and there are debentures to upwards of £800,000.

Another serious failure has taken place in connection with the recent losses in Grand Trunk stocks, and in this case fraud had been resorted to to delay discovery.

## THE HAIRY-FRONTED MUNTJAC.

The muntjacs are a small group of the deer family peculiar to India and Western Asia, and remarkable for having their antlers carried on long bony pedestals which are covered with a hairy skin, and somewhat remind one of the diminutive horned processes on the head of the giraffe. They are likewise peculiar for having longitudinal ridges of skin between the eyes, within the folds of which small glands are situated, and for the extreme development of the canine teeth in the males. The best known species of muntjac is the ribbed-faced, or barking deer of Indian sportsmen, which is found throughout the jungles and forests of British India, and ascends the Himalayas to an elevation of eight or nine thousand feet. It is most abundant in hilly countries, Dr. Jerdon tells us, and is quite a forest animal, only coming to the skirts of the woods in the morning and evening to graze. "It gets the name of barking deer from its call, which is a kind of short bark like that of the fox, but louder, and may be heard in the jungles it frequents both by day and by night." Closely allied to the Indian muntjac are two species from China, known to naturalists as Reeves' muntjac (*cervulus Reevesi*), and the crying muntjac (*cervulus Lacrymans*). Of both these forms of muntjac, as well of the Indian species, examples may usually be seen in the Zoological Society's collection. But the animal lately received by the Zoological Society, of which we give an illustration, appears to belong to a very different species from the three above mentioned. It is readily distinguishable from the muntjacs hitherto known to us by the long hairs which spring from the forehead and summit of the head and almost conceal the short horns, and by its long tail. The single male specimen received was transmitted to this country by Mr. A. Michie, of Ningpo, China. It was doubtless obtained in that part of the Celestial Empire, although little further information has as yet been received concerning it.

Her Majesty's ship *Mersey* was successfully launched at Chatham Dockyard on Tuesday morning by Lady Key, wife of Admiral Sir Astley Cooper Key.

We understand that the *Boy's Own Paper*, of the Religious Tract Society, whose readers have already subscribed over £1200 for two life-boats, besides £400 for a hospital cot, is promoting a Boys' Gordon Memorial, on the lines known to be dear to Gordon himself—viz., to help the poorer working and suffering lads.

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Newspapers for foreign parts must be posted within eight days of the date of publication, irrespective of the departure of the mails.

Office: 109, Strand, W.C.

## OBITUARY.

SIR V. H. LEVINGE, BART.

Sir Vere Henry Levinge, eighth Baronet, of Knockdrin Castle, in the county of Westmeath, died at Madras on the 22nd ult. He was born Nov. 28, 1819, the sixth son of Sir Richard Levinge, sixth Baronet, by Elizabeth Anne, his wife, daughter and eventual coheir of Thomas Boothby, first Lord Ranelagh; was educated at Haileybury, and was for some years in the Madras Civil Service. He succeeded to the baronetcy at the decease, last September, of his brother, Sir Richard, seventh Baronet. Sir Vere was never married, and the title devolves on his nephew, now Sir William Henry Levinge, ninth Baronet, born in 1849, and m. r. 1, 1876, to Emily Judith, daughter of Sir Richard Sutton, Bart.

SIR A. H. FREELING, BART.

Sir Arthur Henry Freeling, fifth Baronet, Major-General Royal Engineers (retired), died on the 26th ult., at 2, Elm Park-gardens. He was born July 26, 1820, the second son of Mr. John Clayton Freeling, Secretary to the Board of Inland Revenue, and succeeded to the title at the decease of his cousin, Sir Henry Hilt Freeling, fourth Baronet, March 12, 1871. He was educated at Harrow, entered the Royal Engineers in 1837, and retired as Major-General in 1877. He married, 1848, Charlotte Augusta, daughter of Sir Henry Rivers, Bart., and leaves a son, now Sir Harry Freeling, sixth Baronet, born June 5, 1852, and a daughter, Marion, wife of Mr. William Foster Moore, of Plymouth.

MAJOR-GENERAL HOPKINS.

Major-General William Friend Hopkins, C.B., Royal Marine Light Infantry, died at his residence, St. James's Lodge, Hampton-hill, Middlesex, aged seventy-five. He was son of Mr. John Hopkins, of Rochester. In 1829, he entered the Army, and served with the Royal Marine Brigade in the Crimea, 1854 to 1855; in command of the first battalion, at Balaklava, did duty in the trenches, and commanded the Royal Marines at Inkerman. For his services, he received the Crimean medal with three clasps, the Sardinian and Turkish medals, the Medjidieh and the Legion of Honour, besides being made C.B. From 1859 to 1864, when he was promoted to the rank of Major-General, he acted as A.D.C. to the Queen. He married, 1839, Jessie, daughter of Mr. Henry Thompson, of Turnham-green.

COLONEL COCKS.

Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Lygon Cocks, of Treverbyn Vean, Cornwall, J.P. and D.L., late of the Coldstream Guards, died on the 24th ult., at Bournemouth, in his sixty-fourth year. He was third son of Mr. Thomas Somers Cocks, by Agneta, his wife, daughter of the Right Hon. Reginald Pole-Carew, and grandson of Mr. Thomas Somers Cocks, banker, of Charing-cross, whose eldest brother was created Lord Somers. Colonel Cocks was educated at Sandhurst, and served with the Coldstreams in the Crimea from May, 1855, to the fall of Sebastopol. He had the Crimean medal with clasp, the Turkish medal, and the Medjidieh (fifth class). He married, July 5, 1870, Josephine, daughter of Mr. J. Chichester-Nagle, of Calverleigh Court, Devon, and leaves two daughters, twins.

We have also to record the deaths of—

Morison Watson, M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Anatomy, Owens College, Manchester, on the 25th ult., aged thirty-nine.

The Hon. George Cornelius Gerald O'Callaghan, elder and last surviving son of Lord Lismore, on his passage home from India. He was born Nov. 3, 1816, and, by his death without issue, there is now no heir to the Lismore peerage.

Lieutenant Alexander T. F. Edwards, Royal Irish Regiment, doing duty with the Indian Contingent, on the 23rd ult., from the effects of a wound received the previous day in action near Souakim; son of the late General Clement Alexander Edwards, Colonel of the Royal Irish.

Mr. Mark Anthony Saurin, of Orclinton, in the county of Pembroke, J.P., High Sheriff, 1867, youngest son of the Right Rev. James Saurin, D.D., Bishop of Dromore, and nephew of the Right Hon. William Saurin, Attorney-General for Ireland, on the 25th ult., aged seventy.

Miss Elizabeth Crombie Duthie, the lady who gave the city of Aberdeen the public park which bears her name, on the 30th ult., aged sixty-five. The Duthie Park, which was opened by Princess Beatrice in September, 1883, cost £50,000. Miss Duthie has bequeathed the rest of her fortune to the public institutions of the city.

Mr. Thomas Fellowes Reade, late her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General for Tunis, on the 24th ult. He acted as private secretary to his father, the late Sir Thomas Reade, when that gentleman was Agent and Consul-General at Tunis. In September, 1854, he went to the Crimea, under the authority of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to place his services at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief, and was present at the battles of Balaklava and Inkerman.

Mr. J. W. Davison, at Margate, on the 24th ult., in the seventy-second year of his age. For very many years he was the musical critic of the *Times*. Mr. Davison was a skilled practical musician, besides having possessed high literary attainments and powers. He had much to do with the establishment of the Monday Popular Concerts, the analytical programme-books of which were written by him up to the period of his death. In the course of his long career, he had had personal knowledge of many distinguished musicians, including, among others, Rossini, Auber, Mendelssohn, and Spohr; while he was one of the first to estimate and to make widely known the genius of our own distinguished countryman, the late Sir Sterndale Bennett. Mr. Davison's conversation was attractive to all who could appreciate his great range of information, his wide-extending sympathies, and his combination of earnestness and genial satire. In 1860, he was married to Miss Arabella Goddard, the eminent pianist.

It is stated that the State apartments at Windsor Castle will be open to the public on and after Easter Monday.

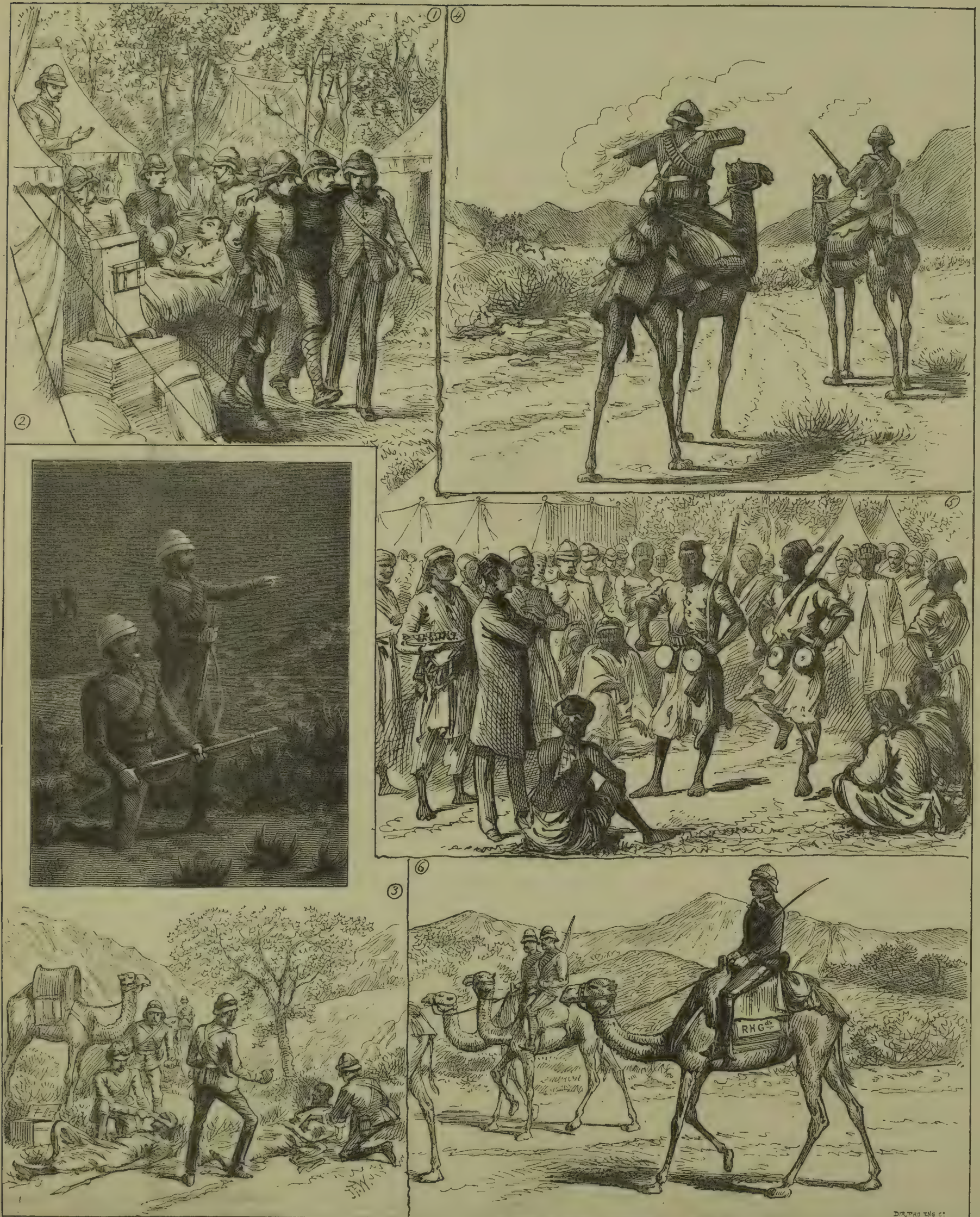
Lord George Hamilton, M.P., opened on Tuesday afternoon the International Exhibition at the Alexandra Palace, Muswell-hill.

The whole of the £5000 required for the purchase of the Sussex County Cricket Ground has been guaranteed, and the Committee of the Club have accordingly decided to effect the purchase. The Earl of Sheffield, the President, has contributed £600 to the fund.

The Duke of Cambridge presided on Monday at the annual meeting of the Royal School for the Daughters of Officers of the Army, held in the Royal United Service Institution. His Royal Highness said that the chief difficulty the school had to contend with was financial, and it was more than ever necessary that it should be liberally supported.



T H E W A R I N T H E S O U D A N .



1. Arrival of first batch of wounded at Korti.

2. On picket duty.

3. Tending the wounded at Abou Klea.

4. Dangers of the road: Messengers with despatches defending themselves against Arabs.

5. Gordon's Soudanese playing tom-toms in camp at Korti.

6. Colonel Burnaby on camel.

1, 4, 5, ARE SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. MELTON PRIOR.

2, 3, 6, ARE SKETCHES BY W. S. PERRY, A TROOPER OF THE FIRST LIFE GUARDS IN THE CAMEL CORPS.





THE LATE SIR THOMAS BAZLEY, BART.,  
M.P. FOR MANCHESTER.



THE LATE LIEUT.-COL. A. M. TAYLOR, 19TH HUSSARS.  
DIED OF FEVER AT CAIRO.



COLONEL MAHMOUD TARHAT,  
COMMANDER OF THE STEAMER SOFIA.



GENERAL MOHAMMED NUSSI,  
MILITARY COMMANDER OF GORDON'S STEAMERS AT KHARTOUM.



MAJOR ALI REDHAH EFFENDI,  
COMMANDER OF THE STEAMER TELL-EL-HAWIN.

THE WAR IN THE SOUDAN: PORTRAITS BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. MELTON PRIOR.



HAIRY-FRONTED MUNTJAC AT THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS.



NEW SCANDINAVIAN CHURCH, LIVERPOOL.



## THE LATE SIR T. BAZLEY, BART.

The death of this gentleman, who represented Manchester in the House of Commons until the General Election of 1880, and who was President of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce during twenty-five years, was recorded in our *Obituary* last week. Mr. Thomas Bazley was a native of Bolton, engaged at an early age in the staple manufacturing business of Lancashire, and became the sole proprietor of the largest fine cotton and lace thread spinning concern in the trade, employing more than 1000 hands. He joined earnestly in the efforts of Lancashire men to promote free and unsectarian popular education; and he established, in connection with his factories, schools, lectures, and reading-rooms. Mr. Bazley was one of the earliest members of the Manchester Anti-Corn Law Association, and of the Council of the League; in 1837, with Richard Cobden and John Brooks, he opened the Free Trade campaign at Liverpool, on which occasion he made his first public speech. In 1858, he was elected M.P. for

Manchester without opposition, and was again returned at the head of the poll at two subsequent elections. He seconded the Address in reply to the Queen's Speech in the Session of 1863, but did not often take part in debate. A baronetcy was conferred upon him in 1869, which devolves on his son, Sir Thomas Sebastian Bazley, of Riversleigh, Lytham, and Hatherop Castle, Gloucestershire. The late Baronet was eighty-eight years of age.

## SCANDINAVIAN CHURCH, LIVERPOOL.

This church, known as "Gustaf Adolf's Kyrka," has been built for the use of the Scandinavian sailors who frequent the port of Liverpool in large numbers. Its erection is due to the "Fosterland" Society of Stockholm, which makes the care and comfort of the Norsemen in foreign ports its special object. King Oscar of Norway and Sweden has shown his lively interest in this excellent work by heading the Swedish sub-

scription-list with a handsome donation. Norway and Denmark have added their quota, and, with the further assistance of the Liverpool Scandinavians, a total of £4000 has already been raised, further funds being still required for the purchase of the site. The building, which has been erected from the designs of Mr. W. D. Caröe, M.A., architect, of London, comprises a church to accommodate 500 persons, a spacious reading-room, and a parsonage. The architecture is characteristically Scandinavian in style, entirely new to this country, and the building thus forms a striking and unusual object in the city. The birthday of King Oscar and the Princess of Wales was appropriately chosen for the opening ceremony, Liverpool showing its interest by the attendance of its Mayor in civic state. The occasion was further honoured by congratulatory messages from the King and the Princess. We learn that the services of the church continue to be numerously attended—a mark of the well-authenticated high morale of the Norse seamen.

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CONVERSION OF £3,772,000 NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT FIVE PER CENT CONSOLS.—The Governor and Company of the Bank of England Give Notice that, on behalf of the agents appointed by the Governor of New Zealand in Council, under the New Zealand Consolidated Stock Act, 1877, the Amendment Act, 1881, and the Consolidated Stock Act, 1884 (Sir Francis Dillon Bell, K.C.M.G., and Sir Penrose Gough, K.C.M.G., C.B.), they are authorised to invite holders of the debentures of the above loan to bring in their debentures for conversion on the following terms, viz.:—

For every one hundred pounds of such debentures a new debenture will be issued for the same amount, bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum for seven years, from April 15, 1885, to April 15, 1892, when it will be converted into £100 New Zealand Four per Cent Consolidated Stock, inscribed at the Bank of England, which will rank pari passu with the Four per Cent Consolidated Stock already created and issued, and redeemable at par on Nov. 1, 1920.

Applications for conversion will be received up to April 30 next, inclusive.

The interest upon the new debentures will be payable by coupons in the same manner as upon the Consol Debentures—viz., Jan. 15, April 15, July 15, and Oct. 15, at the Bank of England, the first coupon being due on the 15th day of Jan. next.

Consol Debentures, from which the coupon due April 15 next must be detached, may be deposited at the Chief Cashier's Office, Bank of England, for exchange on or after Wednesday, the 15th inst. They must bear all coupons subsequent to that date April 15 next, and must be left in the hands of the Cashier until the 15th inst. Receipts will be given for the debentures deposited, and the new debentures will be issued in exchange as soon after as possible.

The usual annual drawing for redemption of the Consols will take place on Tuesday, March 31; debentures deposited before that date will not be affected by the drawing. Holders of Consol Debentures drawn for redemption, in respect of which no application for conversion has been made, will be allowed to receive, in exchange for each drawn debenture, a new debenture as above, upon payment of the sum of 24 per cent, provided application be made before April 15 next.

By the Act 40 and 41 Vict. ch. 59, the revenues of the colony of New Zealand alone will be liable in respect of the stock and the dividends thereon; and the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, and the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, will not be directly or indirectly liable or responsible for the payment of the stock or of the dividends thereon, or for any matter relating thereto.

Bank of England, March 6, 1885.

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The Seventy-Sixth Anniversary Dinner of the Corporation will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1885—the Right Hon. Viscount Hardinge in the chair.

The Institution is entirely supported by the voluntary donations and subscriptions of artists and patrons of the fine arts. Gentlemen's tickets, 2s.; Ladies', 12s. 6d. may be obtained of the stewards, at the bar of the Freemasons' Tavern; and of the Secretary, L. Youve, Esq., 23, Garrick-street, W.C.

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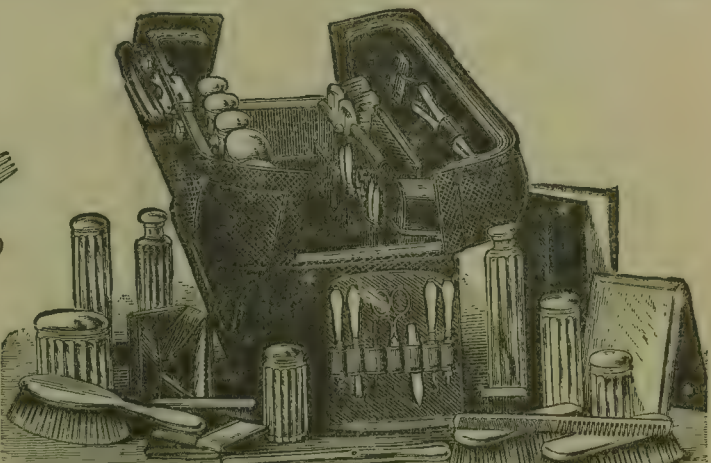
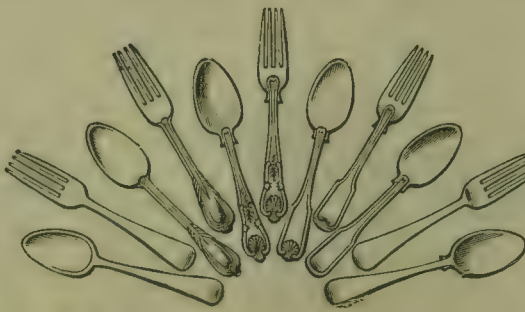
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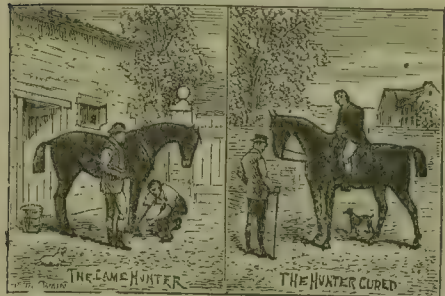
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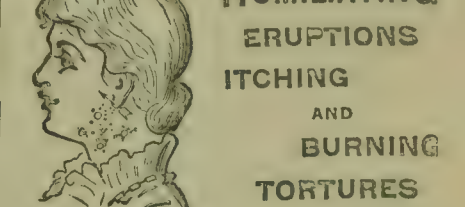
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## ADRIAN VIDAL.

BY W. E. NORRIS,

AUTHOR OF "MDLLE. DE MERSAC," "MATRIMONY," "THIRLBY HALL," &c.

### CHAPTER XX.

#### ESTRANGEMENT.

Heriot's circumstances and domestic arrangements so far differed from those of most bachelors that he enjoyed the privilege of asking ladies to dinner, and availed himself of it pretty freely during the season. When he invited our friends in Alexandra-gardens to honour him so far one evening, they had no excuse for sending him a refusal, although one of them would have been glad to escape the lecture which he feared was in store for him. Clare and Miss Vidal, who had not yet seen the interior of Heriot's abode, felt the curiosity natural to their sex to inspect a house which owned no mistress—a house, too, which was reported to contain artistic treasures of every description.

Their host's drawing-room proved to be very much what they had anticipated; that is to say that it was filled with beautiful and valuable objects, and that the absence of feminine superintendence was very perceptible in it. A man may hope to fit up a library or a smoking-room with fair success; but to make a drawing-room look inhabited is a little beyond us. Heriot had not attempted this feat. With the exception of a few Oriental rugs, he had added nothing to the furniture which he had inherited, and which belonged to the period of gilding and mirrors. The pictures, the bronzes, the enamels, and the china which he had collected in the course of his travels had been sent home to Brook-street, and unpacked by his housekeeper, who had arranged them without interference on the part of their owner. The result would have grieved the soul of an æsthetic dilettante; but Heriot had something to say in justification of it.

"You see," he explained to the two ladies who were busily examining his pretty things, "I feel that everybody who enters this room will do me the justice to perceive that I am not responsible for it; whereas, if I tried to lessen its ugliness, I should probably fall into blunders which you couldn't forgive. Lady St. Austell was here the other day, and she said, 'Your drawing-room is like yourself—frankly hideous, you know, at the first glance, but full of unexpected beauties, if you take the trouble to look for them.' I think that was a very pretty compliment. One doesn't make one's face; but one may flatter one's self that the unexpected beauties are of one's own creating."

Clare thought to herself that Lady St. Austell's own face merited precisely the opposite description; the beauty of it being apparent to careless observers, while its unexpected ugliness became visible upon a closer scrutiny. But she prudently refrained from saying this aloud, and Georgina laughed and remarked: "I shall break into your house some time when you are away, Mr. Heriot, and lay hands upon various trifles which you will never miss."

"Do," answered Heriot—"or lay hands upon them now, which will be still better. Lady St. Austell did. She never

comes here without carrying away some memento of her visits. She says it will save me the trouble of mentioning her in my will."

And it was a woman who could make such speeches as that, Clare thought, whom men found fascinating! Then De Wynt came in, rubbing his hands, and the small party was complete.

"I am sorry that we are a lady short," Heriot said. "Lady St. Austell, who had promised to join us, sent about an hour ago to say that she couldn't get off another engagement."

It is probable that the absence of this fifth guest was not deeply deplored by the other four. Adrian inwardly returned thanks to Heaven for his deliverance from danger, and remarked aloud: "We shall be ever so much jollier without outsiders."

Yet, somehow, the evening was not a very jolly one. De Wynt may have enjoyed it, and so, perhaps, did Georgina; but the remaining three certainly did not. Heriot could not help noticing that something was amiss between Adrian and Clare, nor could they help being aware that he noticed this; so that their joint and several efforts to behave as though all were well failed lamentably. The presence of De Wynt was a comfort to Adrian, since nothing of a private nature could be said before him during the twenty minutes that the three men spent in the dining-room after dinner; but he was not to escape the interview with his friend which he dreaded. For when the hour of release came, and when he had put the ladies into their carriage, muttering something about going down to the club to smoke a cigar, Heriot interposed with, "Stay and smoke your cigar with me, Adrian; I haven't seen anything of you yet." To which he could only reply, "All right, old man," with such show of alacrity as was at his command.

"I hope it is not too late to offer my congratulations," Heriot said, after he had led the way into the comfortable library of which he made a good deal more use than of his drawing-room. "You have become a famous man since you were last in this house."

"Hardly that," answered Vidal, laughing.

"Oh, you are famous—don't affect modesty with an old friend. And I am told that you write the review of fiction in that queer new venture of Pilkington's—if it is his venture. Probably it is somebody else's venture, though?"

"Oh, of course. I don't know who the principal proprietors are—Egerton, I believe, for one—but we are all of us interested in it to a small extent. What do you think of its chances?"

"As a speculation, do you mean? I am no judge of such matters; but I should think it ought to pay, if Pilkington can be induced to stick to it. I read the literary article in the last number, and thought I recognised your touch. You were quite right to join the staff of the *Anglo-Saxon*. It is a brilliant one just now, and, even if it doesn't hold together long, you will be all the better for having been connected with it."

"Do you think it won't hold together?" asked Vidal, a little anxiously.

"I know nothing about it, except that brilliant staffs have a way of splitting up after a certain time. Perhaps this one will be the exception that proves the rule. At any rate, you are not dependent upon Pilkington and his experiments. Your business is the writing of novels, and I am very glad to think that you are making a much better business of it than seemed likely this time last year."

Vidal laughed. "Oh, yes; the money is tumbling in. It tumbles out again, though, at a deuce of a pace. I can assure you, Heriot, that it costs a great deal more than a bachelor might suppose to maintain an establishment in a humble way on the extreme outskirts of civilised London. I feel that I ought to be laying by for a rainy day; but I haven't been able to manage it so far."

"Let us hope that there will be no rainy days for a long time to come," said Heriot, cheerfully. "After such a start as you have made, your earnings ought to increase henceforth rather than diminish; and if there is such a thing as luck, I should say that you may safely count yourself a lucky man. Up to the present, at all events, you have got everything that you have wished for. You ought to be about the happiest fellow in London."

"Well, perhaps," answered Vidal, who somehow rather resented this imputation. "The things that one has wished for don't always turn out to be all that one's fancy painted them, though."

"Do you mean to say that greatness is beginning to pall upon you already? This is the result of too many dinners and too much flattery. Never mind, Adrian; whenever you find your palate cloyed by an over-dose of compliments, come to me and I will administer correctives. I can pick plenty of holes in 'Two Lovers,' let me tell you."

Such is the perversity of human nature that Adrian no sooner noticed a disposition on his friend's part to shirk the delicate subject that we know of, than he himself began to wish to introduce it. It was not natural to him to keep his distresses to himself; moreover, he had some hope that Heriot had abstained from condemning him out of sheer inability to do so. So he said, "I don't mean that. I can swallow a fair quantity of compliments without feeling sick, and I don't get any more than I can manage. But sometimes I doubt whether it was wise to take up our abode in London. I think, perhaps, we should have been happier down in Cornwall, after all. That is, I think my wife would have been happier."

"People who have been born and bred in the country naturally long for fresh air after they have been several months in a large town," remarked Heriot.

"Yes; but that isn't all. The fact of the matter is that Clare hates society and I like it. Well, of course, if one were living on a Cornish moor, one would adapt one's self to circumstances, and there would be an end of it; but I can't live



like a hermit in London. I don't think it ought to be expected of me that I should."

Heriot said nothing at all, which was rather provoking, and it was in a somewhat more aggrieved tone that Adrian went on: "I know you understand how things are. It isn't pleasant to be received with black looks after one has talked for ten minutes to a woman who is not even young or pretty; it isn't pleasant to be suspected and distrusted. I make every allowance for difference of temperament and all that; still, it isn't pleasant. And it seems to me that I should be quite wrong to give in for the sake of a quiet life. You, at all events, will believe that I would gladly give up many of my own pleasures to please Clare. I haven't changed towards her, though in some ways she has changed a little towards me. But the truth is that she wants what it is impossible that she should have—at any rate, so long as we live in London. She really is not reasonable. Of course, I wouldn't say this to anyone but you."

"Do you know," observed Heriot, quietly, "I think you would do more wisely not to say it even to me."

"Very well," answered Adrian, a good deal affronted; "I won't do it again, then. I thought perhaps you might be able to help me out a little, and you used to be willing enough to do that, when you were asked; but no doubt you are quite right to snub me. It is bad form to talk about one's wife."

"It won't do, Adrian," returned Heriot, laughing good-humouredly. "I decline to be inveigled into the absurd position of a mediator between two people who must understand each other better than I can understand either of them. Your quarrel—if it can be called a quarrel—seems to me perfectly ridiculous. I suppose the quarrels of lovers always do seem so to outsiders, and it would be easy enough to give you excellent advice, if one did not know that it would be superfluous. You and Clare can make friends again whenever you choose to do so, and I imagine that you will choose before you are much older. Anyhow, I wish you both to remain friends with me, and therefore I shall not say anything to either of you that I don't want repeated to the other."

This cavalier way of dismissing the subject did not impose upon Adrian, who was too familiar with Heriot's face and voice to be deceived as to the anxiety which it was intended to conceal. But he did not insist upon plainer speaking, and only remarked, after keeping silence for a short time: "I'm glad you don't blame me, at any rate."

"Oh, but I never said that," returned Heriot. "If you want to know what I think of you, I haven't the slightest objection to telling you that I consider you an ass. You ought to know better than to require a woman to be reasonable, and you certainly must know that, whatever other women may be or do, your wife doesn't carry unreasonableness to the pitch of wishing you to renounce all society."

This being exactly what Adrian believed that Clare did wish, the question of whether he was more or less of an ass than Heriot gave him credit for being seemed to remain open; but he did not care to bring the point forward; nor did he think it worth while to mention, as he had intended doing for a moment, the alarm that he had been caused by Susan Bowman's reappearance. He went away soon afterwards, admitting to himself that Heriot had probably been right in refusing to meddle between husband and wife, yet feeling a little sore that he had been denied the sympathy which his friend had never before failed to extend to him.

Sympathy was, in fact, to Adrian Vidal very much what an ancient coin was to his father-in-law. He could make shift to do without it at a pinch; but he could not deny himself the solace of it, if it was to be had anywhere within reach; and when the customary sources failed him, he was fain to seek what he required in Grosvenor-square. With Lady St. Austell's habits, opinions, and general conception of life, he had no more sympathy than she had with his; but there were certain minor points as to which they were in complete agreement; and, besides, it was pleasant to be smiled upon and made much of.

"So you are going down to Polruth again," she said to him one afternoon. She was sipping a cup of tea and was equipped for the Park; for the hour was approaching when she, like most other ladies, felt it incumbent upon her to take part in that daily parade which they would find so intolerable if it were made compulsory. Beyond the open window behind her were banks of flowers; the lowered sun-blinds made the light subdued; and in the coolness and fragrance of the room, in the ceaseless roll of the carriages outside, even in the aspect of the well-dressed, well-preserved woman who sat opposite to him, the jewels on her plump white hands flashing as she raised her tea-cup, Adrian found something that at the same time soothed and excited his senses. In truth, the atmosphere of London was as delightful to him as the atmosphere of the country is to some other people.

"So you are going down to Polruth again," she repeated—"dear old sleepy Polruth! How will you like that?"

"I liked it very well last year," Adrian answered.

"Ah, last year was—last year. I can understand that you enjoyed yourself very much then; but one ought never to go back to places where one has enjoyed one's self; and to go back with the partner of one's former joys—after having actually married her too!"—Lady St. Austell shook her head gravely. "I should think it would be dreadfully depressing," she remarked presently.

Adrian had reasons for thinking that it very possibly might be; but he did not feel inclined to state them, or to claim Lady St. Austell's sympathy with regard to this particular matter. "Shall you be in Cornwall in the course of the summer?" he asked; and, feeling that her presence in the vicinity of Polruth would be far from an unqualified boon, he was rather glad to hear her reply: "Not this year, I believe. We are to go to Scotland rather earlier than usual, and after that we shall have to be in Hertfordshire until the hunting begins. That is the worst of having so many houses. One is obliged to live in them more or less, and the consequence is that one really lives nowhere, and can never lay one's hand upon anything that one wants."

"I don't think I should object to eighty thousand a year, all the same," remarked Vidal. "Or is it a hundred thousand?"

"I don't know what it is," answered Lady St. Austell. "Of course one would a great deal rather be rich than poor; but the provoking thing about money is that it seems as if it ought to give you everything, and yet, after a certain point, it only gives you the same things as your neighbours have, but on a rather larger scale. I can quite enter into the feelings of Matthew Arnold's sick king in Bokhara, who had wealth and fame, and all the rest of it, but could not even save a beggar from being stoned to death. What is the use of being such a magnificent person if one can't do what one wants or have what one wants?"

"What is the especial thing that you want?" Vidal inquired.

Lady St. Austell sighed plaintively. "Ah, so many things!—and all of them especial things, too! But it's no use thinking about them. One thing I want, which ought not to be impossible. I want you to come and stay with us in

Scotland. Are you fond of shooting? If you are, you will be able to amuse yourself all day; and then perhaps you will take pity upon me, and amuse me a little in the evening."

"Thanks; it's very kind of you," began Vidal, hesitatingly.

"Now, I know what you are going to say," interrupted Lady St. Austell; "your wife won't let you leave her. Well, she can come too, if she likes. I am sure I shall be delighted to see her. So will Lord St. Austell," she added, with a little titter, of which the significance escaped her hearer.

"You are extremely kind," said Adrian again.

"And you are more than extremely foolish," retorted Lady St. Austell, who was not fond of being thwarted. "Why do you allow yourself to be so cruelly hen-pecked?"

"It isn't exactly that," Adrian said.

"Oh, but I assure you it is exactly that, and you won't find it a bit the less inconvenient for being called by another name. Really, I have no patience with women like Mrs. Vidal! I don't say it to annoy you, you know; but it is a fact that I have taken some trouble to be polite to her, and have had nothing but rudeness in return. As far as I am concerned, she is perfectly welcome to be rude; only I do most sincerely pity you. Without vanity, I may say for myself that I am rather more good-natured than most people; and if she goes on like this she will very soon deprive you of all your friends. I should like to have her here for five minutes to tell her what I think of her!"

Adrian opened his mouth; but whether he was going to undertake his wife's defence or to apologise for her ingratitude will never be known; for he had not yet got out a word when the door was thrown open and "Mrs. and Miss Vidal" were announced.

It was certainly a piece of rather bad luck that Clare should have selected this afternoon of all others for paying the call which she owed after Lady St. Austell's garden party, and it was also bad luck that Georgina, who wanted to see the inside of the house, should have persuaded her to come in, instead of leaving cards at the door. The moment of her entrance was an awkward one for everybody. Even Lady St. Austell was a little thrown off her balance by this speedy fulfilment of the wish that she had just uttered, and felt no inclination to take advantage of the opportunity thus afforded her for speaking home truths; while Adrian, who had jumped up from his chair, stood smiling foolishly, and looking a great deal more conscious of having been caught than so seasoned a man of the world had any business to do.

Clare, as a general thing, had far less self-command than either of the other two; but she now remained perfectly composed, surprising her husband, and compelling the respect of a lady who respected but few things. She stayed for about ten minutes, making conversation, somewhat stiffly, but without apparent effort, and exchanging cold civilities with Lady St. Austell, who had of course shaken off her momentary embarrassment, but who probably judged the occasion inopportune for renewing that invitation to Scotland which Adrian had already declined on his wife's behalf. To him Clare did not address a word until she rose to go, when she turned to him and asked, "Are you coming with us?" That question admitted of but one reply; so Adrian presently found himself descending the staircase behind his wife and sister, looking—and knowing that he looked—extremely like a school-boy who has been pounced upon by his master when out of bounds, and is being led back for punishment.

He was not in an observant frame of mind; otherwise he might possibly have noticed a red baize door, giving access to the back stairs, which was cautiously opened an inch or two as he passed. Behind that door might have been seen the exultant countenance of Miss Susan Bowman, who was rubbing her hands softly, and who laughed aloud when the three visitors had disappeared. This was indeed a treat! Susan required nobody to tell her that the meeting between Mr. Vidal and his wife had been unpremeditated on both sides, and, having noticed the expression of their respective countenances as they passed her post of observation, she had little difficulty in picturing to herself the sort of interview which would be likely to take place between them on their return home.

"Oh, my dear friend and benefactor," she murmured, what an evening you are going to have! I shouldn't wonder if you had been telling a few little innocent lies of late about the number of times you have been to see her ladyship, and I shouldn't wonder if you had to confess the lot of them. Tears?—bless you, yes! you'll get plenty of them; and you're not partial to tears, you know. You'll have to make some promises, too, and then you'll break them, and then you'll be found out again; and so it will go on till you wish you were dead. That wife of yours has got a nice, soft, pretty face of her own; but there was a look upon it just now which makes me suspect that she can scratch as well as purr—and she'll let you find it out to-night, unless I'm very much mistaken."

But Susan was mistaken, as it happened; and although Mrs. Vidal did indeed find it necessary to request a private interview with her husband that evening, Lady St. Austell's name was not mentioned in the course of it, and it was she, not he, who found it a painful one.

When Clare followed Adrian into his study, after the rest of the household had retired to bed, and began: "Adrian, I have something to speak to you about," he groaned in spirit, fearing the worst; and nothing could have exceeded his relief when it turned out that all she had to say was that she was at the end of her resources and that the household expenditure could no longer by any possibility be kept within the limits assigned to it some months before. He did not in the least realise what it cost her to make this avowal; he was far from imagining that, in order to avoid making it sooner, she had deprived herself of every personal luxury that could be dispensed with, and that to her somewhat disordered fancy it appeared as though by admitting her failure to accomplish her duty as a housewife, she were in some sort condoning the offences which he, on his side, had committed against her.

"Why didn't you tell me this before?" he asked, unlocking the drawer of his writing-table and taking out all the loose cash that he had by him. "Of course, an extra person being in the house must make a difference, and one can't dine one's friends for nothing. We'll have a supplementary vote now and increase the estimates for the future. What shall we put it at? Half as much again? All right; and if that isn't enough, you must let me know. I can always make up a deficit by a little extra work."

This was certainly a liberal way of doing things; for Adrian's coffers were by no means overflowing, and he thought that his wife would at least reward him with a few words of thanks. But she did nothing of the kind. She only gathered up the money, remarking, "I am sorry to have been such a bad manager," and moved towards the door.

Adrian let her go. It seemed to him that she made an almost imperceptible halt upon the threshold, as if she thought he might be going to call her back, and, indeed, he was more than half inclined to do so. But he resisted the weakness. What would be the good, he thought, of entering upon explanations which would certainly not be held satisfactory and listening to reproaches of which he could not admit the justice? Time and change of scene would do their

work, he hoped; and it was better to trust to such old-established remedies than to the doubtful one of a scene, followed by a possible treaty of peace.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### A CRUEL CALUMNY.

Heriot was a poor sleeper at the best of times; and when anything occurred to disturb or perplex him after ten o'clock in the evening his chances of rest before daybreak were small indeed. The brief conversation which he had held with Adrian upon the subject of the latter's domestic troubles had worried him a good deal more than he had chosen to show; and when he had read a book in bed until his head ached, without inducing the faintest sensation of drowsiness, he blew out his candle, and resigned himself to the fact that he was going to have a night of it. This being by no means his first experience of the kind, he did not count up to ten thousand, or try to see an endless flock of sheep leaping over a stile, or adopt any other of the futile remedies by means of which some people, similarly circumstanced, are wont to goad themselves to the verge of insanity, but lay patiently on the flat of his back, like a sensible man, and reflected.

And this, among other things, was what he said to himself: "It's rather a hard case when a man can do nothing for his two best friends, except hold his tongue. Here are these silly people drifting apart, thinking evil of one another, and doing all they know to build up a wall between themselves which may gradually reach such a height that they will never see each other again—and all about nothing! Half a dozen words would set the whole stupid misunderstanding straight; only it isn't by me that they can be spoken. I was right to shut Adrian up; he has a strong case, and it wouldn't do to argue it with him. As for Clare, she has next to no case at all; so that argument with her would be even more hopeless. The best thing that could happen to them would be to have a downright quarrel; but I'm afraid it won't come to that, and if I interfere they will both quarrel with me, as sure as this is a world of fools. Evidently, there's nothing for it but to stand on the brink and watch them sinking or swimming, as the case may be."

But such a philosophical course of action was hardly within the compass of one whose heart was softer than his head, and Heriot felt that there was a hope—a rather forlorn one, it was true, still a hope—that he might to some extent benefit, by means of speech, those whom he desired to serve. No one knew better than he did that the real source of their trouble lay in total dissimilarity of character, and that if it had not appeared in this direction, it would assuredly have done so, sooner or later, in that; but just as there are certain latent maladies which can only be arrested when they manifest themselves in a specific form, so it seemed possible that something might be done for this estranged couple by removing what was at all events the ostensible cause of their disagreement. Of course, it was not certain that such a removal could be effected; but Lady St. Austell, like many other selfish people, was extremely good-natured, and if it were represented to her that she was bringing a vast amount of unhappiness upon others with very little prospect of counterbalancing advantage to herself, she would be quite as likely as not to give Adrian his *congé*, and appoint some more suitable young man to take his place.

So Heriot thought he would make the attempt. An attack of illness, which was the penalty that he invariably paid for fidgetting himself overmuch about any matter, prevented him from giving effect to his resolution for some days; but, as soon as he was able to go out again, he betook himself to Grosvenor-square, and arrived there, as it chanced, just after Adrian and Clare had escaped from the comfortless visit of ceremony described in the last chapter. Lady St. Austell's carriage was at the door; but, after Heriot had been kept waiting a few minutes, he was told that she would receive him, and she interrupted his apologies by declaring that she would much rather talk to him than go out for a drive.

"I am only thankful that you didn't come in five minutes ago," she said. "If you had, I should certainly have burst out laughing, and then I don't know what would have happened. I do wish people wouldn't have such foolish wives!"

"Whose husband have you been qualifying to match his wife in that respect?" asked Heriot.

"Oh, nobody's. If that poor Mrs. Vidal only knew what a perfectly harmless, and indeed improving thing platonic affection is, I am sure she would be a far happier woman."

"Not a doubt of it; but we must have patience with the dulness of humanity and forgive those who are not yet educated up to our standard. So it is Mrs. Vidal who has been behaving foolishly?"

"I can't quite say that. No; she behaved wonderfully well, considering. She was very freezing; but she was not rude. I imagine, though, that she doesn't allow her husband even to pay calls without her, for I never saw anyone look so utterly dumbfounded as he did when she was announced. Oddly enough, we had just been talking about her, and as I was telling him in a friendly way how idiotic it was of him to let himself be ridden over roughshod by her, in she walked, accompanied by that grenadier of a woman who, I am told, scampers about the Cannibal Islands without any clothes on during the greater part of the year."

"Really, I think there must have been a trifling exaggeration about that report," said Heriot.

"Perhaps so; it doesn't much signify. She was quite clothed to-day, and I presume she was in her right mind; though why she should have planted herself before me, with her hands on her knees, and stared at me as if I were some new kind of savage I don't know."

"Open-mouthed admiration," said Heriot. "It couldn't have been anything else, you know."

"Well, whatever it was, it was rather embarrassing. And I think these good people might understand that I am not so desperately eager to cultivate them, after all. Mr. Vidal is all very well, and I am always delighted to see him; but I don't know whether I was quite right in trying to take up his wife. I only did it out of pure benevolence, and I certainly never expected her to put on airs with me. It is just a little bit impertinent. Don't you think so yourself?"

"Oh, I shouldn't submit to it for a single moment," answered Heriot; "I can't think why you do. These Vidals evidently don't know their proper place, and ought to be put back into it without delay. The next time he comes, you had better give him to understand as much, and then he won't come any more."

Lady St. Austell sniffed meditatively at her gold-mounted bottle of smelling-salts.

"H-m-m! But you see, I should miss him, poor fellow! He really is very nice."

"You don't say so! Has he actually succeeded in touching your heart, in spite of the inferiority of rank to which you are so alive?"

"Oh, that was you; I never said anything about their inferiority. No; I don't know that he has exactly touched my heart, as you call it, yet; but I fancy that if we saw more of each other we might perhaps arrive at—an understanding."



The Board of Trade have awarded a binocular glass to Mr. Philip L. Ferguson, the master of the ship Hudson, of St. John, New Brunswick, in recognition of his humanity in standing by the barque Minnie Gray, of Hull, which was abandoned at sea on Feb. 10 last, and sending a boat to the succour of the shipwrecked crew. The Board have also awarded an aneroid barometer to Mr. David Rickwell, the second mate of the Hudson, and £1 each to the four seamen who manned the boat in which the rescue was effected.

The Lord Chancellor presided over the annual general meeting of the City and Guilds of London Institute, which was held last week at the Mercers' Hall. In moving the adoption of the report, his Lordship expressed a hope that the spirit of liberality which had actuated the Corporation and City Guilds to do the great work which they had done would move them, as far as the means under their command allowed, to do whatever might be needful to ensure the complete success and the satisfactory development of their work.

The Afghans, who call themselves by the name of Pukhtun, and claim to be descendants of Saul, King of Israel, and a branch of the Jewish nation carried into Babylonian captivity by Nebuchadnezzar, constitute two thirds of the existing population of Afghanistan. Nearly a million of the inhabitants of the plains, especially in the western districts, are Tajiks and Kizilbashis, of Persian Khorassan, with some Turkoman admixture, and are a peaceable, orderly, industrious-kind of folk; there are also the Jats, the Hindkis (Hindoo traders), the Hazara mountaineers, and some pastoral tribes of Tartar or Turkoman race. But the Afghans, who despise all trade and industry, devoting their energies to war, though incessantly divided by factions, have ruled the three provinces, Cabul, Candahar, and Herat, separately or in conjunction, during most part of two centuries past. Attempts have been made by Persia, doubtless with the secret connivance of Russia, to reconquer Herat, and have been opposed by the British Government of India. Nadir Shah captured the city in 1731, but it was retaken by Ahmed Khan, founder of the Durani reigning family of Afghanistan, in 1749. It was besieged by the Persians in 1837 and 1838, when it was defended ten months, with extraordinary valour, skill, and success, by a young English officer, Eldred Pottinger. In 1856, Herat was again captured by the Persians, after an obstinate siege; but this led to war between England and Persia; and the war, carried on in the Persian Gulf, forced the Shah to give up the city in July, 1857. The people of Herat were always unwilling to be ruled by the Ameer of Cabul. They were governed by another Afghan Prince, one of a rival house, till 1863, when Dost Mohammed, near the end of his life, besieged and conquered the city. It may be within our readers' recollection that, so lately as 1880, in our last Afghan War, after the British capture of Cabul, one of the sons of Shere Ali, the deposed Ameer, a Prince whose name was Ayoub Khan, made himself master of Herat. Ayoub raised an army there, marched to Candahar, defeating a British force on his way, at Maiwand or Kush-i-Nakhud; but finally succumbed to the force brought from Cabul by General Sir Frederick Roberts. This example proves the great political importance of Herat for the safety of other parts of Afghanistan.

It is time, however, to give some description of the city and its neighbourhood, with reference to the present apprehensions for its safety. Herat is finely situated, in a broad valley extending from east to west, between the Safed Koh, or "White Mountain" range, and the Siah Koh, the "Black Mountains," where the Heri river (Heri-Rud) flows down from the highlands of Hazara. The lower part of the valley opens towards the Persian frontier; and the main road to Meshed, passing by Ghorian and Kuhsan, bends north-west, leaving the river at Kuhsan, the frontier town of Afghanistan. A Russian army which could traverse the Persian territory would easily march to Herat by that road. The hill country north of Herat affords more defensible positions, but can be traversed by several passes from Badghis, the region north of the Safed Koh, between the Heri-Rud and the Murghab, where the Russians have now intruded. There is the Robat Pass, through the Barkhut





NEW SHIPS OF OUR NAVY: H.M.S. COLOSSUS, TWIN-SCREW DOUBLE-TURRET IRONCLAD, 9150 TONS, 6000-HORSE POWER, CARRYING EIGHT GUNS.





THE GREAT HIGHWAY OF CENTRAL ASIA.

SKETCH BY MR. W. SIMPSON, OUR SPECIAL ARTIST WITH THE AFGHAN BOUNDARY COMMISSION.



hills, to Kuhsan, the entrance to which, at Ak Robat, has actually been seized by them; the Cheshmeh-Subz, lately described in our Special Artist's letter; and the Ardewan and other roads over the Kaito hills, from the head of the Kushk valley, leading immediately to Herat. It was to cover or to watch these roads that Sir Peter Lumsden recently moved his camp to Gurin, which place is in the middle between the Kushk river and the Barkhat hills, about ninety miles north of Herat. The eastern part of Badghis, along the Kushk and Murghab rivers, was formerly a populous and thriving district, with the great road of traffic from Herat to Merv, Bokhara, and Samarcand, in one direction, and to Maimene, Balkh, and the Upper Oxus farther east. Ancient towns, of which our Artist saw the desolate remains at Chaman-i-Bed, at Kala-i-Maur, at Ak Tapa, at Penjdel, at Maruchak, and at Karaoul Khaneh, sprang up in connection with the great commercial and metropolitan city of Turkish Khorassan. They are now reduced to fragments of walls, heaps of potsherds, and the "Tapas," square mounds which may have been the base of their citadels; around which the nomad tribes of Sarik Turkomans pitch their kikitkas, and pasture their flocks and herds.

Herat itself is still a city, and might again be made a prosperous city, under any regular and tolerable Government. It stands in a plain sixteen miles wide, four miles from the mountains on the north side and twelve miles from those to the south. This strip of plain is richly cultivated by the aid of numerous streams of water formed in artificial channels; villages, corn-fields, vineyards, orchards, and gardens cover its space; the river, two or three miles south of the town, is crossed by a brick bridge of thirty arches. The town is built in a quadrangle, 1600 yards long and 140 yards broad, inclosed by walls 25 ft. or 30 ft. high, with thirty bastions on each face, rising from the top of a ridge or mound of earth which averages 40 ft. in height, with a moat inside and outside, which can speedily be filled with water. On the north side, within the walls, is a mound upon which stands the citadel, with massive towers of burnt brick, and there is an outwork defending the northern gate. The citadel is surrounded by a moat and rampart. The town is divided into four quarters by straight lines of bazaars, streets partially covered with brick arches, and occupied by shops, meeting in the centre at the Charsue, or "Four Streets," as this place is called, which is marked by a high dome; and here is the Charbagh, the Governor's Palace, which is more like a barrack. The lesser side streets are mere narrow alleys, dirty and wretched, with a crowded population, though large spaces are deserted. The houses mostly have domed roofs, and are two storeys in height. The city was reckoned in 1830 to have 45,000 or 50,000 inhabitants; but there has been a great falling off, and later estimates are under 20,000. It has some manufactures of silk yarn, leather, fur cloaks and caps, metal, earthenware, and beautiful carpets. The mines of iron, lead, and silver, in the neighbouring mountains, are now almost neglected. The townspeople are a motley mixture—Tajiks, Aimaks, Turkomans, Persians, Jamsheedies, Hindoos, Tartars, and Jews, with Afghans strutting about fiercely, each carrying a whole armoury of guns, pistols, swords and daggers stuck round his body. The principal mosque, the Masjid-i-Juma, built in the thirteenth century, is in a ruinous state, but must have been very magnificent, being 465 ft. long and 275 ft. wide, with six doors, 130 windows, and 414 pillars, and with costly decorations, long ago stripped off, sculpture, gilding, and mosaics of precious stones. Outside the city, a mile to the north, on the mound or hillock of the Mosulla, are the ruins of a vast and beautiful edifice, the mosque and sepulchre of Sultan Hussein Mirza Baim, who died in 1498. It had twenty minarets, four of which are yet seen at a distance by the traveller approaching Herat; the buildings surround a court one hundred yards square, with cloisters, the walls of which are adorned with exquisite mosaics of floral and various fantastic designs; beyond is a large circular hall surmounted by a dome, lined with blue and gilt glazed tiles; and there are other grand apartments. Nearer to the town is another mound, the Thal-i-berghi, which was thrown up by Nadir Shah for his siege battery when he attacked Herat in 1731. There are five city gates, which have memorable associations with important events in Persian, Turkish, Tartar, and Afghan history. The past glories of Herat may be exaggerated, but it is quite probable that about the end of the twelfth century, when London had its first

Lord Mayor, Herat was a much greater city than London. It then contained "twelve thousand retail shops, six thousand public baths, caravanserais, and water-mills, three hundred and fifty colleges, schools, and monastic institutions, a hundred and forty-four thousand inhabited houses; and was regularly visited by caravans from all parts of Asia."

Herat is distant from Merv, by way of Sarakhs and the Heri-Rud, nearly 220 miles, and about the same distance from Meshed, the present Persian capital of Khorassan. The distance to Candahar is 369 miles, by a tolerably easy route, through Subzawar and Furrak, and crossing the Helmund at Girishk, the place to which the British troops advanced in the campaign of 1880. We shall have a railway completed, in the year after next, from India to the verge of the plain of Candahar, passing by the British frontier military station of Quetta; but Russia will probably by that time have extended her railway from the Caspian to Sarakhs, or even to Merv, and the facilities of access to Herat would then be about equal. The military possession of Herat, or the establishment of a protectorate in case of an insurrection there against the Ameer of Cabul, would undoubtedly give Russia the means of obtaining a predominant influence in Afghanistan, which could only be checked by securing British influence at Candahar; but there would be no necessity for direct annexation. The turbulent, factious, and fanatical disposition of the Afghans has in all ages made them very undesirable subjects. It is far better policy to rely on their spirit of independence and warlike habits, and encourage them to resist foreign aggression on their cherished freedom, which they have defended against the mightiest of Asiatic Empires. At the same time, they may be persuaded to allow the peaceful work of civilisation and commerce to go on, much to their own profit, among the quiet and industrious population of Southern and Western Afghanistan. If only peace could be secured, laying aside schemes of political ambition, the railway might be prolonged to Candahar, and thence possibly to Herat; bringing great benefit not only to those provinces, but to the whole of Central Asia; while India and England would gain their due share of the reward in a considerable increase of trade.

THE GREAT HIGHWAY OF CENTRAL ASIA.

Mr. Simpson, our Special Artist with the Afghan Boundary Commission, while travelling in October last from Teheran eastward to the banks of the Heri-Rud and the Murghab, observed with much interest the condition of the northern part of the Persian dominions, and the once flourishing province of Khorassan, of which Meshed is the present capital. As we have remarked in our account of Herat, those countries of Central Asia, including the old Turkish Kingdoms of Bokhara and Khiva, and Samarcand, the ancient Tartar capital, were formerly much more populous and wealthy than is now apparent from any visible signs except the remains of stately buildings in their chief cities. The desolating inroads of wild Turkoman tribes, following the overthrow of the great monarchies of the olden time by their tremendous wars against each other, have thrown much of those territories out of cultivation. The commerce which once flowed regularly to and fro between the East and the West, and from beyond the Oxus and beyond the Indus, bringing the products of China and India to Ispahan and other splendid Persian cities, or to Bagdad and Aleppo, on the way to Europe, has taken another direction. At the same time, there is no fear, in the present age, that a Genghis Khan or a Tamerlane will again lead the ferocious hordes of Northern Asia along the westward route to threaten the borders of civilisation; the conquests of the Russian Empire march from west to east. Our Artist, riding with Sir Peter Lumsden's Staff, day after day for about five weeks, from Teheran to Sarakhs, had leisure to contemplate the altered state of "the Great Highway of Central Asia." He writes, concerning this route of his long journey, "A European unaccustomed to the East might consider that it had no claim to be called a road, for it has almost none of the characteristics of western highways. It is only a track formed by the traffic of at least two thousand years. At regular intervals there are serais, which are large buildings where travellers with their animals and merchandise can find safe shelter and accommodation. The road is the same now as it was in Alexander's time; at least, the changes are but

small. Mud has been the building material here from the earliest period, and the villages could not be very different: they bear a strong family resemblance to much that is seen in the Assyrian sculptures. The camel has continued to be the beast of burden, and will be so till the road is made passable for wheeled vehicles, or till the railway comes, which it is sure to do sooner or later. It is said that the Arabs like to march during the day. The Turks and Persians, on the contrary, prefer the night. On our way we find that kafilas or caravans begin the march as the sun sets, and reach their serai next morning. The pilgrims, as a rule, do the same. As we start on our early march before daylight, we meet pilgrims and long flocks of camels just coming into the place we left. On this account, I have treated the illustration as a moonlight scene—and it thus represents exactly what we have seen morning after morning on the march—and have introduced a party of pilgrims to Meshed, going the opposite way to the camels. The camel-drivers will call out to the pilgrims, as they do to us, to ask a blessing for them at Meshed, and the pilgrims answer that, if spared, they will do so. In the background is a Persian village—its gate will be securely shut, and the people all asleep; in the foreground is one of the shelter-towers which are scattered all round every village."

H.M.S. COLOSSUS.

Every serviceable addition of new ships to our Navy, in spite of the perplexing controversies of scientific and nautical experts about the floating and fighting capabilities of some recently constructed, must be hailed with satisfaction by the anxious British public. We present an illustration of the Colossus, a steel ship, armour-plated with 18 inches thickness of armour, carrying four 42-ton guns in two turrets and four 6-inch guns, resembling the Inflexible in her general arrangement. The Colossus is the first steel ship built in Portsmouth Dockyard, where her keel was laid down in June, 1879; she is now in the reserve division at Portland. The dimensions of this ship are, length between perpendiculars, 325 ft.; extreme breadth, 68 ft.; draught of water, 25 ft. 9 in.; displacement, 9150 tons. Her engines are of 6000 indicated horse power, and she carries 950 tons of coal. The complement of officers and men is 345. The Majestic, built at Pembroke, is a sister ship to the Colossus.

Mr. Carlos Cooper, barrister on the Norfolk Circuit and Recorder of Thetford, has been appointed Recorder of Lynn.

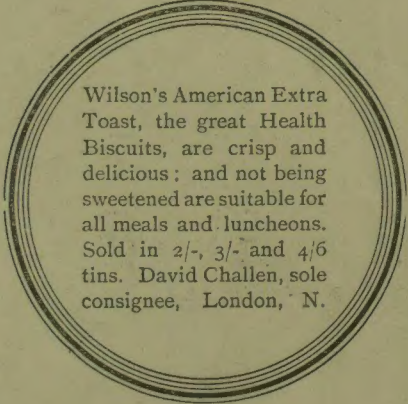
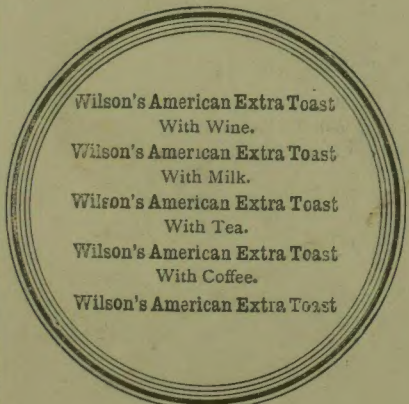
Mr. Elliot Stock, of 62, Paternoster-row, has published fac-similes of the first editions of "The Pilgrim's Progress," Herbert's "Temple," and the "Compleat Angler." These volumes are excellently printed, and are issued at a low price.

An unavoidable delay in the publication of the fifty-third annual edition of "Dod's Parliamentary Companion," which has just been issued, has enabled the editor to bring up the information to a very recent date, and to give on an extra leaf the results of the latest elections.

The annual benefit performance of the Royal General Theatrical Fund took place at Drury-Lane Theatre, by permission of Mr. Augustus Harris, on Thursday week. In accordance with the invariable custom on these occasions, the programme consisted of a sort of theatrical pot-pourri, in order to enable the largest possible number of actors and actresses to lend a helping hand to a charity which has such special claims upon their encouragement and support. The theatre was well filled in every part.

Sir William V. Harcourt, M.P., on Thursday week in Westminster Hall, presented to Police-Constable Cole the Albert Medal bestowed on him by the Queen for his courage in carrying the parcel of dynamite from the crypt at Westminster into the hall. Over 700 of the Metropolitan Police and some members of Parliament were present. Having warmly eulogised the conduct of Sergeant Cox, as well as Sergeant Cole, the Home Secretary called from the ranks Sergeants Garner and Snell, and commended their courage in the capture of burglars at Shoreditch. He then made some general remarks on the Metropolitan Police, praising its discipline and efficiency, and asserting that, as a protector of order and as a defender of life and property, it was a force which had no superior, and perhaps no equal, in the world.

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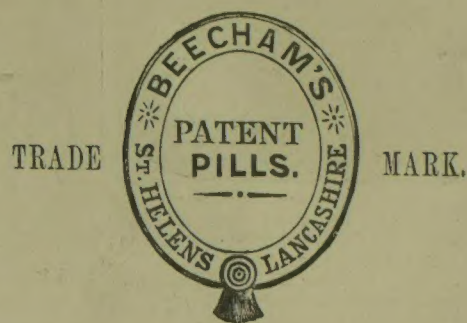
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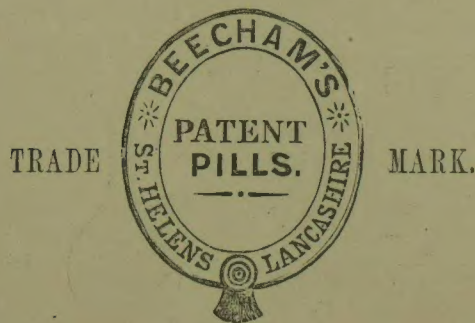
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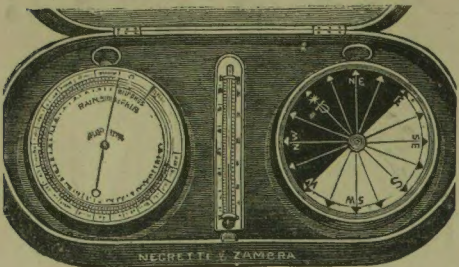


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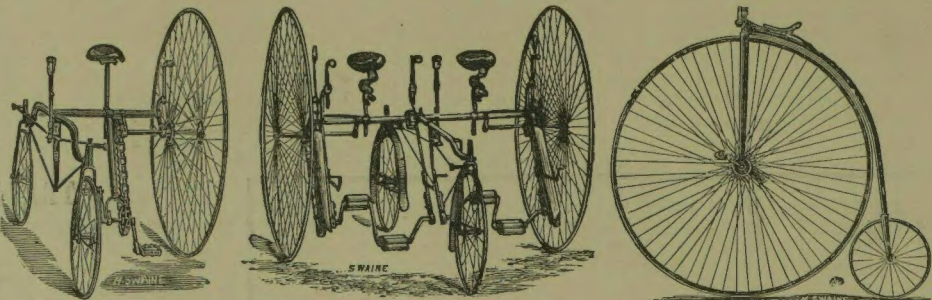
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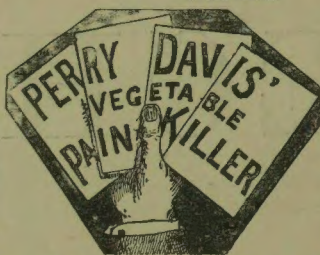
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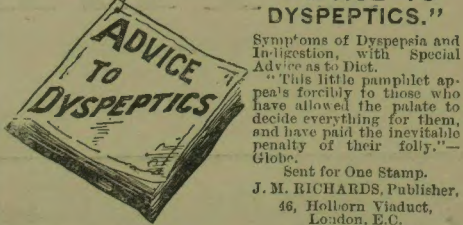
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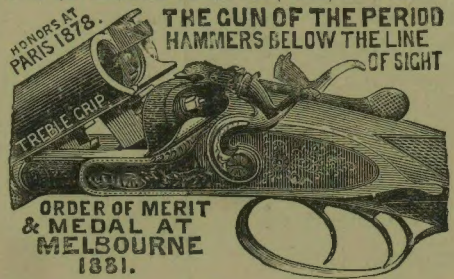
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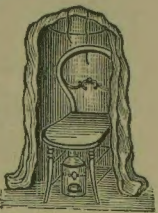
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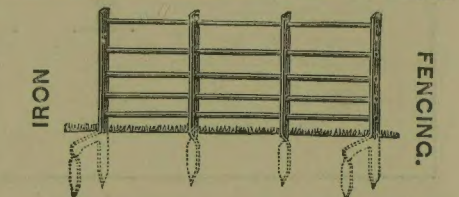


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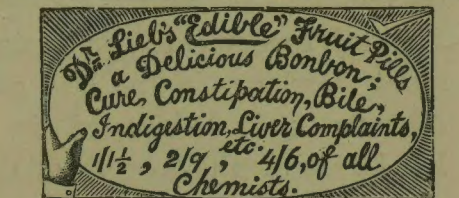
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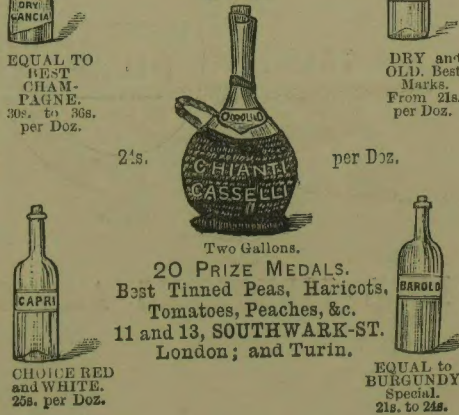
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